

Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

NO.68 US \$1.75
MAR. CAN \$1.95

THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

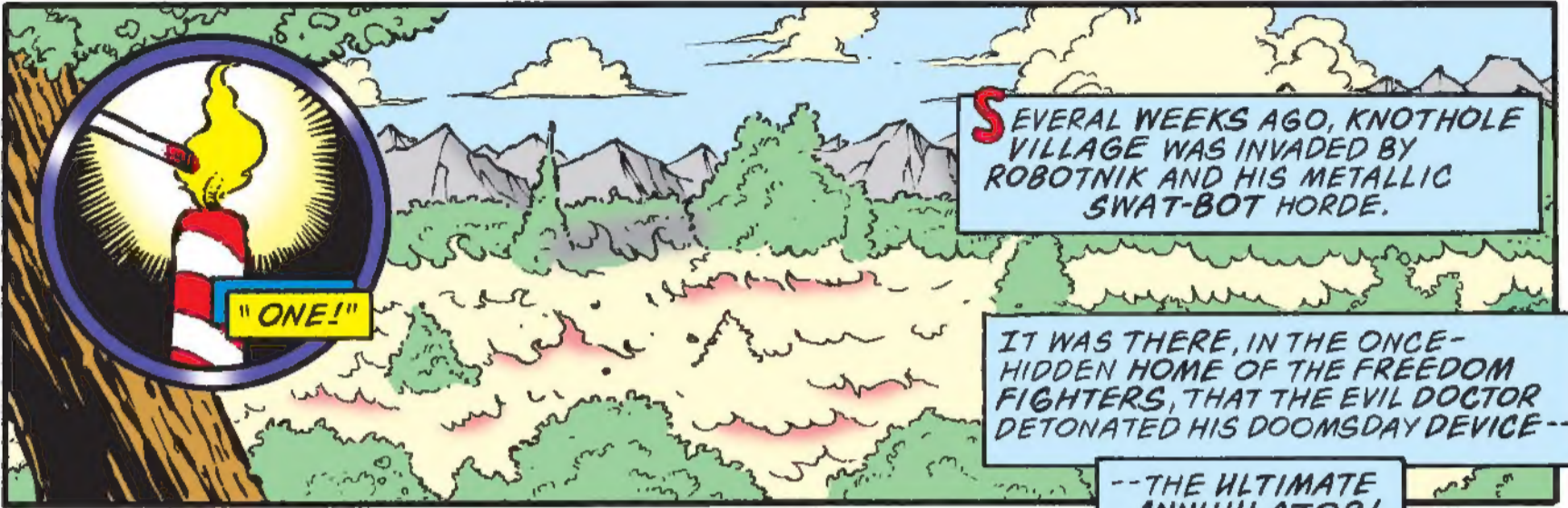
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

HAPPY BIRTHDAY,
SONIC...

---HOPE YOU
SURVIVE THE
EXPERIENCE!

SPAZ
HARVO

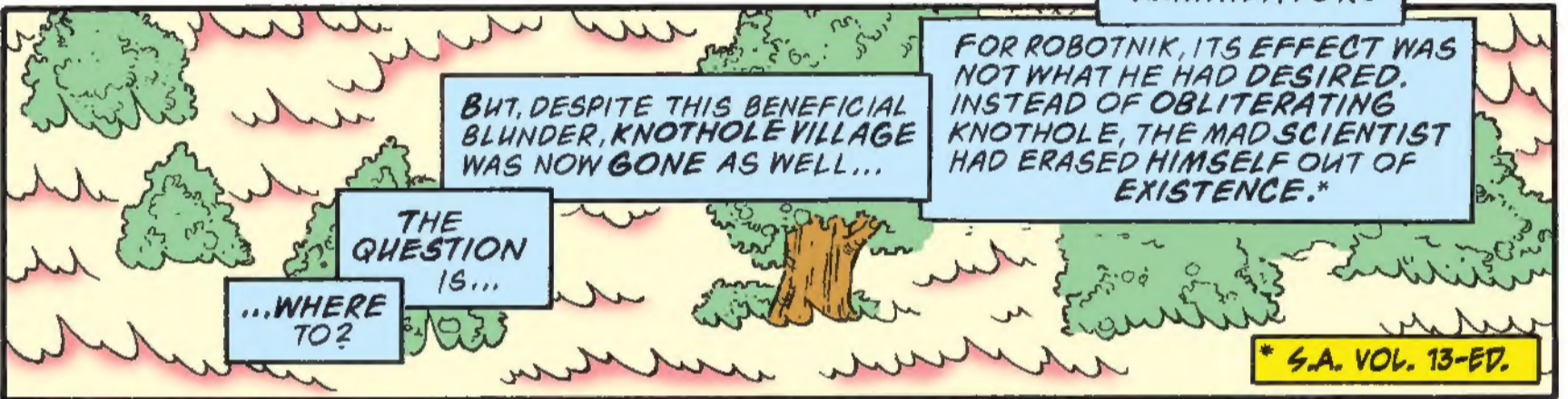
THE PLANET MOBIUS WAS ONCE A VIRTUAL PARADISE UNTIL IT WAS CONQUERED BY THE EVIL DOCTOR ROBOTNIK! HIS TECHNOLOGICAL TYRANNY WOULD HAVE CONTINUED IF NOT FOR A HEROIC GROUP OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS WHO BANDED TOGETHER AND RESTORED ORDER TO THE KINGDOM OF ACORN! THE BRAVEST AMONG THEM IS A BLUE STREAK FILLED WITH THE MOST ATTITUDE GOING AROUND - - AND, WITHOUT A DOUBT, HE IS THE FASTEST THING ALIVE! ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!



SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, KNOTHOLE VILLAGE WAS INVADIED BY ROBOTNIK AND HIS METALLIC SWAT-BOT HORDE.

IT WAS THERE, IN THE ONCE-HIDDEN HOME OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, THAT THE EVIL DOCTOR DETONATED HIS DOOMSDAY DEVICE--

--THE ULTIMATE ANNIHILATOR!



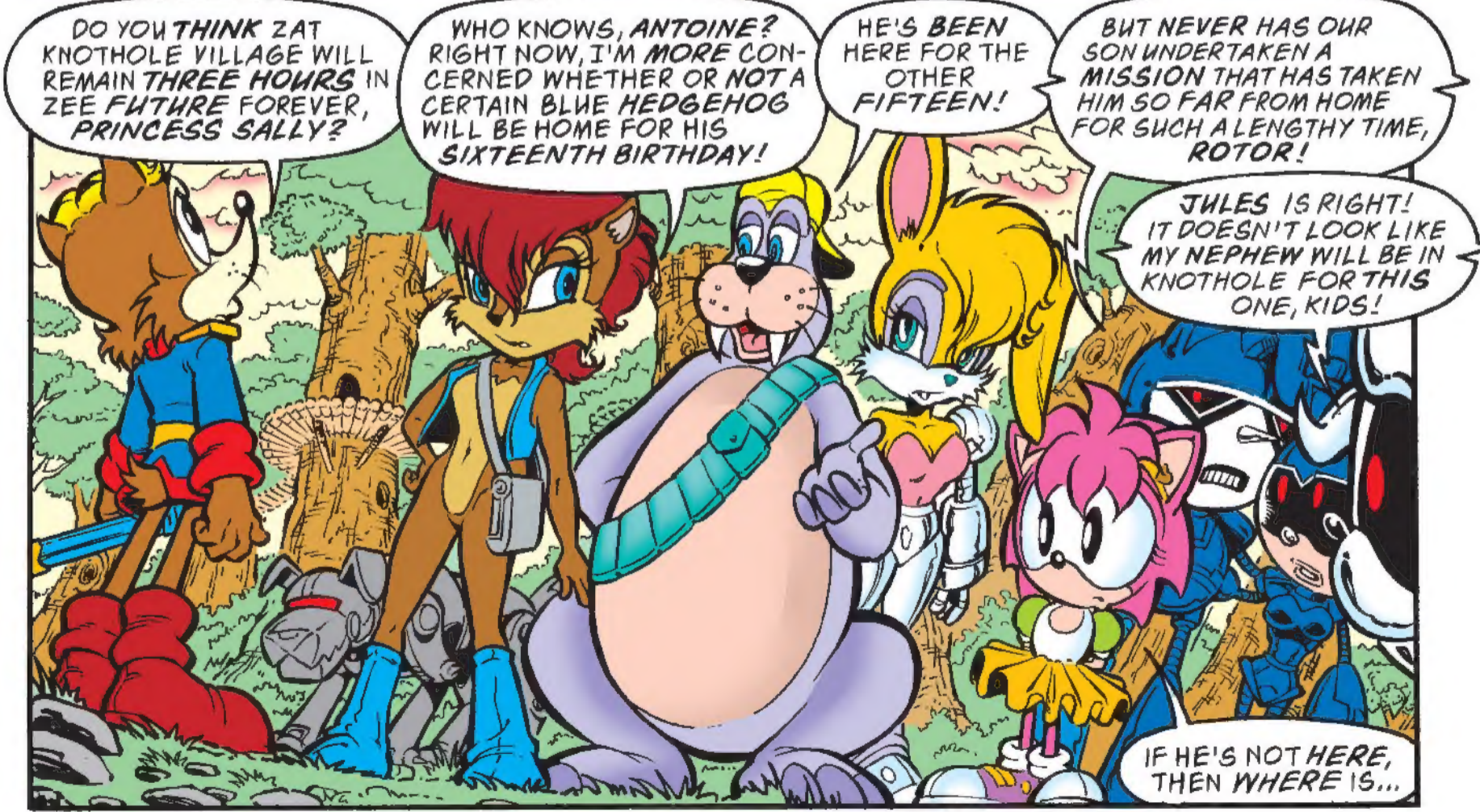
BUT, DESPITE THIS BENEFICIAL BLUNDER, KNOTHOLE VILLAGE WAS NOW GONE AS WELL...

FOR ROBOTNIK, ITS EFFECT WAS NOT WHAT HE HAD DESIRED. INSTEAD OF OBLITERATING KNOTHOLE, THE MAD SCIENTIST HAD ERASED HIMSELF OUT OF EXISTENCE.*

THE QUESTION IS...

...WHERE TO?

* S.A. VOL. 13-ED.



DO YOU THINK ZAT KNOTHOLE VILLAGE WILL REMAIN THREE HOURS IN ZEE FUTURE FOREVER, PRINCESS SALLY?

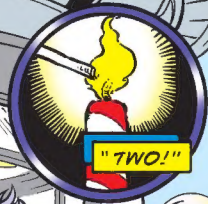
WHO KNOWS, ANTOINE? RIGHT NOW, I'M MORE CONCERNED WHETHER OR NOT A CERTAIN BLUE HEDGEHOG WILL BE HOME FOR HIS SIXTEENTH BIRTHDAY!

HE'S BEEN HERE FOR THE OTHER FIFTEEN!

BUT NEVER HAS OUR SON UNDERTAKEN A MISSION THAT HAS TAKEN HIM SO FAR FROM HOME FOR SUCH A LENGTHY TIME, ROTOR!

JULES IS RIGHT! IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE MY NEPHEW WILL BE IN KNOTHOLE FOR THIS ONE, KIDS!

IF HE'S NOT HERE, THEN WHERE IS...



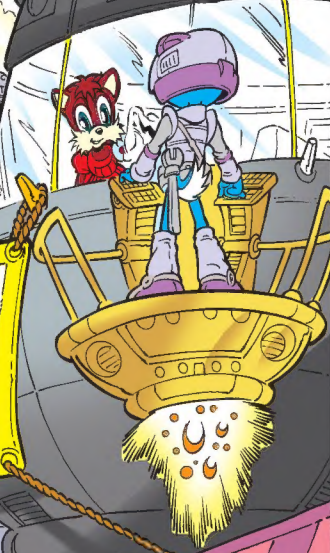
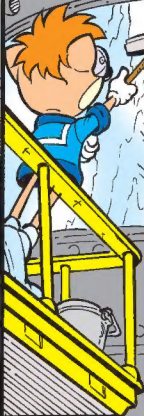
Welcome Back

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

IN

SURPRISE!

KARL BOLLERS-WRITER STEVEN BUTLER-PENCILER PAMEKLUND-INKER JEFF POWELL-LETTERER FRANK GAGLIARDO-COLORIST
J.F. GABRIE-EDITOR VICTOR GORELICK-MINGING EDITOR RICHARD GOLDWATER-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE I'M BACK IN MOBOTROPOLIS AFTER ALL THESE YEARS! THOUGH IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THE CITY I LEFT! BUT WHY THE DISGUISES, MY FRIENDS?

AFTER ROBOTNIK'S RULE, THE SIGHT OF AN OVERLANDER* (EVEN ONE AS SHORT AS YOU) COULD CAUSE A PANIC AMONG THE MOBIANS, NATE!

POINT TAKEN, SAY...WHAT'S ALL THE EXCITEMENT ABOUT?

YEAH, SONIC-- SOME KIND OF PARADE IS ABOUT TO TAKE PLACE!

EVEN THOUGH WE LANDED MY BI-PLANE ON THE OUTFSKIRTS OF TOWN, I THINK WORD MIGHT'VE GOTTEN OUT EARLY ABOUT OUR COMIN' BACK HOME, TAILS!

FROM THE LOOK O' THINGS, THESE SLY CITIZENS ARE PUTTIN' TOGETHER A BIG, FAT SURPRISE BIRTHDAY BASH FOR YOURS TRULY (TALK ABOUT AN ADORING PUBLIC)! WE'D BETTER KEEP THESE ROBES ON, SO NOBODY'LL RECOGNIZE US! DON'T WANNA BLOW THE SURPRISE! COME ON!



*Humans-ED.



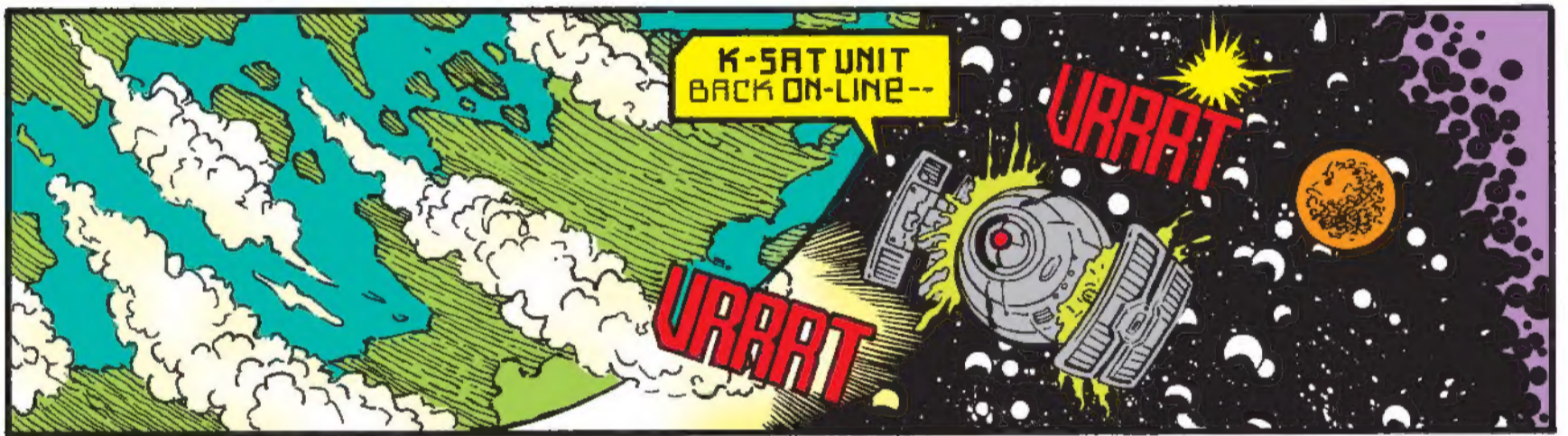
"FOUR!"

SPACE--

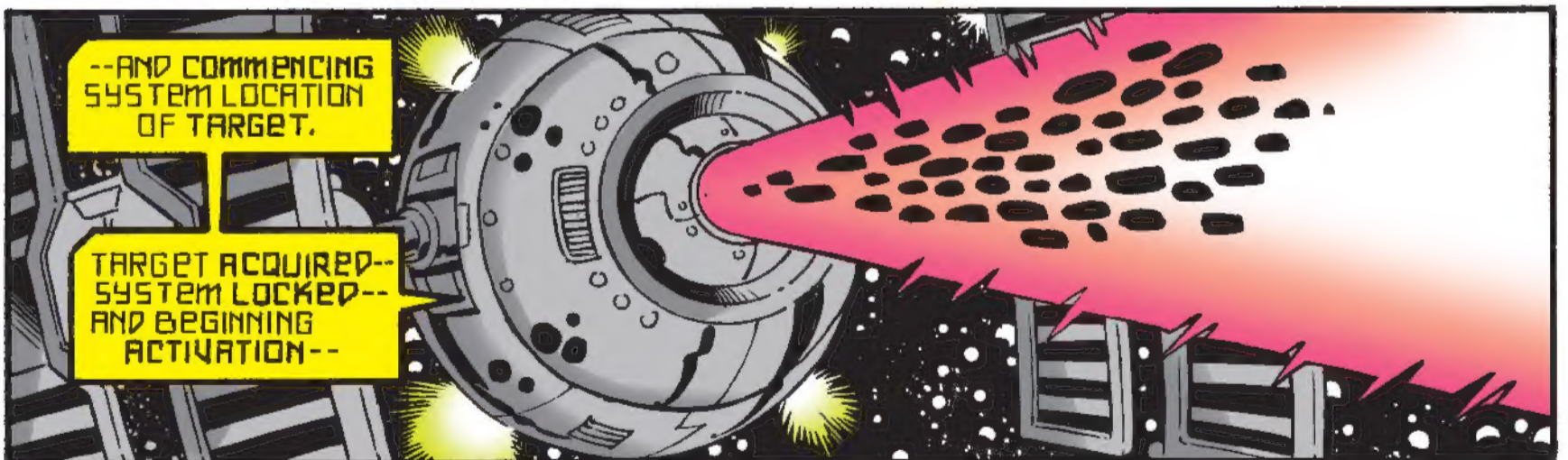
--THE FINAL FRONTIER.



WHO CAN SUSPECT
WHAT LIES BEYOND
ITS OUTERMOST REACHES?
WHO INDEED?

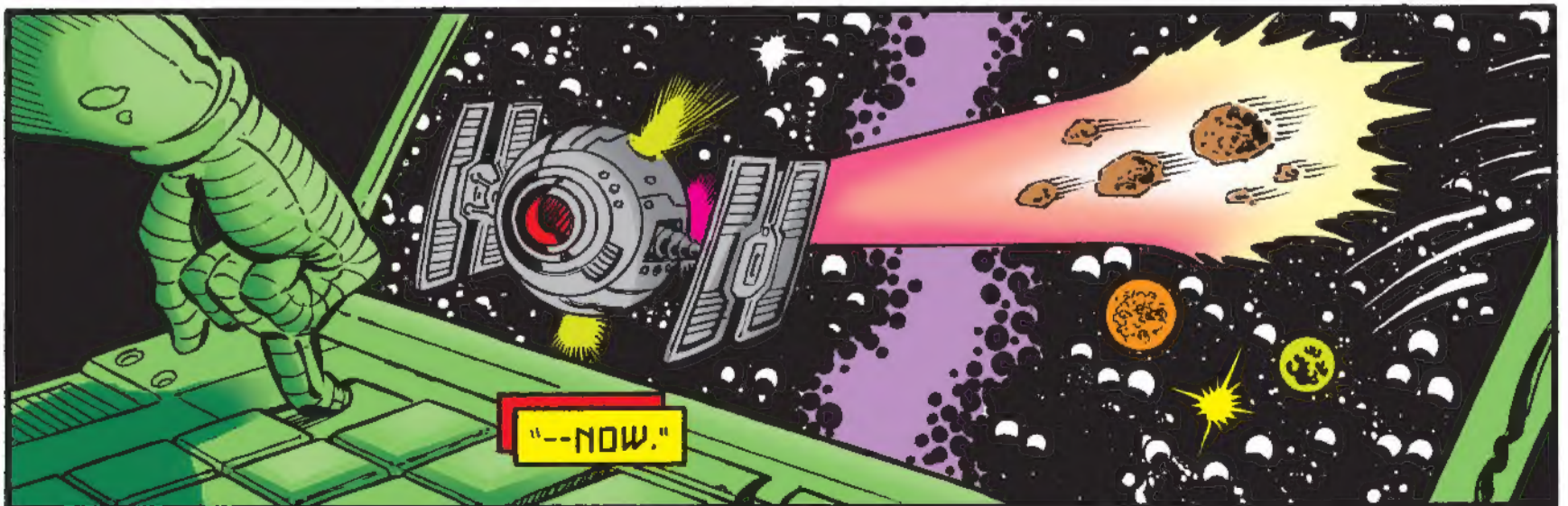


K-SAT UNIT
BACK ON-LINE--

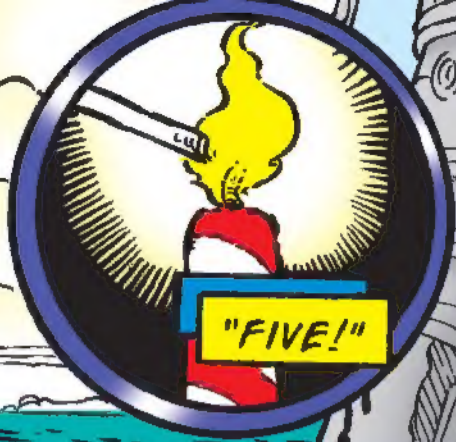


--AND COMMENCING
SYSTEM LOCATION
OF TARGET.

TARGET ACQUIRED--
SYSTEM LOCKED--
AND BEGINNING
ACTIVATION--



"--NOW."



"FIVE!"

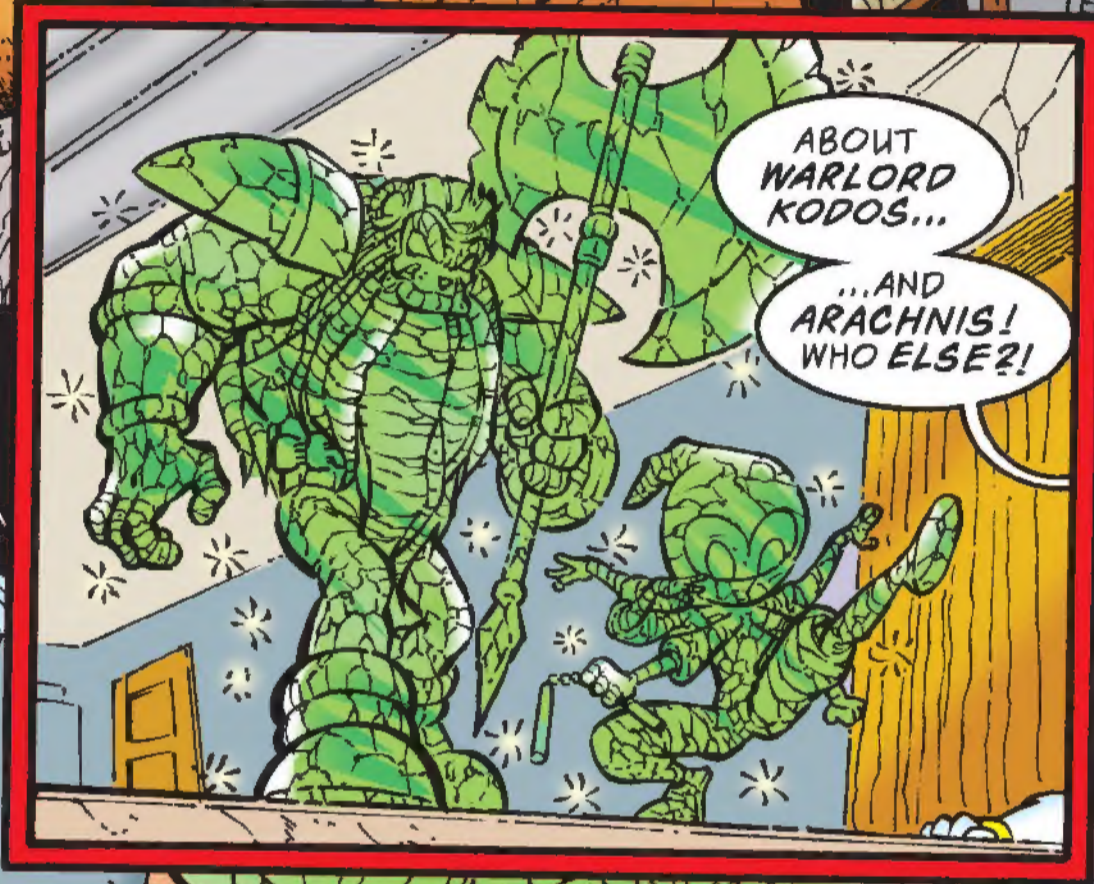
MEANWHILE, IN THE DESERTED CITY OF WEST ROBOTROPOLIS...

...ON BIG KAHUNA ISLAND...



SO WHAT'RE WE GOING TO DO, SNIVELY?

ABOUT WHAT, DRAGO?



ABOUT WARLORD KODOS...

...AND ARACHNIS! WHO ELSE?!

I--I--

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO! I AM IN CHARGE HERE! IT WAS MY GENIUS THAT ALLOWED US TO ESCAPE THE DEVIL'S ISLAND GULAG...

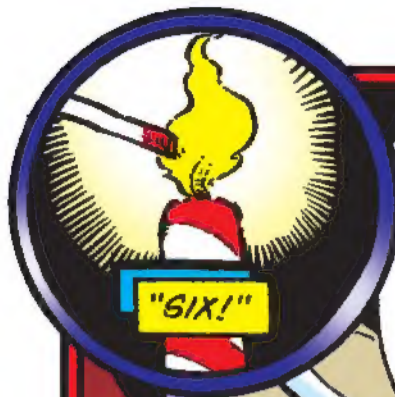
I DON'T KNOW WHY IN THE WORLD WE BOTHERED TO BRING THEM ALONG WITH US AFTER WE BROKE OUTTA JAIL! JUST LOOK--THEY'RE MADE OUT OF PURE CRYSTAL!*

*Due to Ixis Naugus' spell, SEE SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 14--ED.

...WASN'T IT? I MEAN--I'M NOT QUITE SURE HOW I DID IT--BUT ALL THE CELL DOORS OPENED AFTER I SAID I WAS GOING TO LIBERATE MYSELF!*

MAYBE THEY'RE WORTH SOMETHIN' SLEUTH DOGGY--LIKE DIAMONDS!

** S.A. VOL. 16--ED.



I SAY WE FORGET ABOUT 'EM AND POOL OUR TALENTS FOR FIGURIN' OUTHOW TO TAKE OVER MOBOTROPOLIS! WE'VE GOTTA BE SLY... REAL SNEAKY LIKE...!

BAH!

YOU'RE TALKING OUT OF YOUR HAT, NACK! WE'VE GOT TO TREAT THIS INVASION LIKE IT'S A MILITARY OPERATION-- YOU READ ME?

KER-RAK

BOTH YOU AND THE WEASEL ARE WAY OFF-BASE, SERGEANT SIMIAN! OUR ATTACK HAS GOT TO BE AERIAL OR NOT AT ALL!

YEAH, LIKE WE'VE ALL GOT WINGS HERE...

--YOU STINK--

--DUMMY--

--WHY I OUGHTA--

COME ON NOW, FELLOWS--

--SHUT UP--

HOW ABOUT A LITTLE--

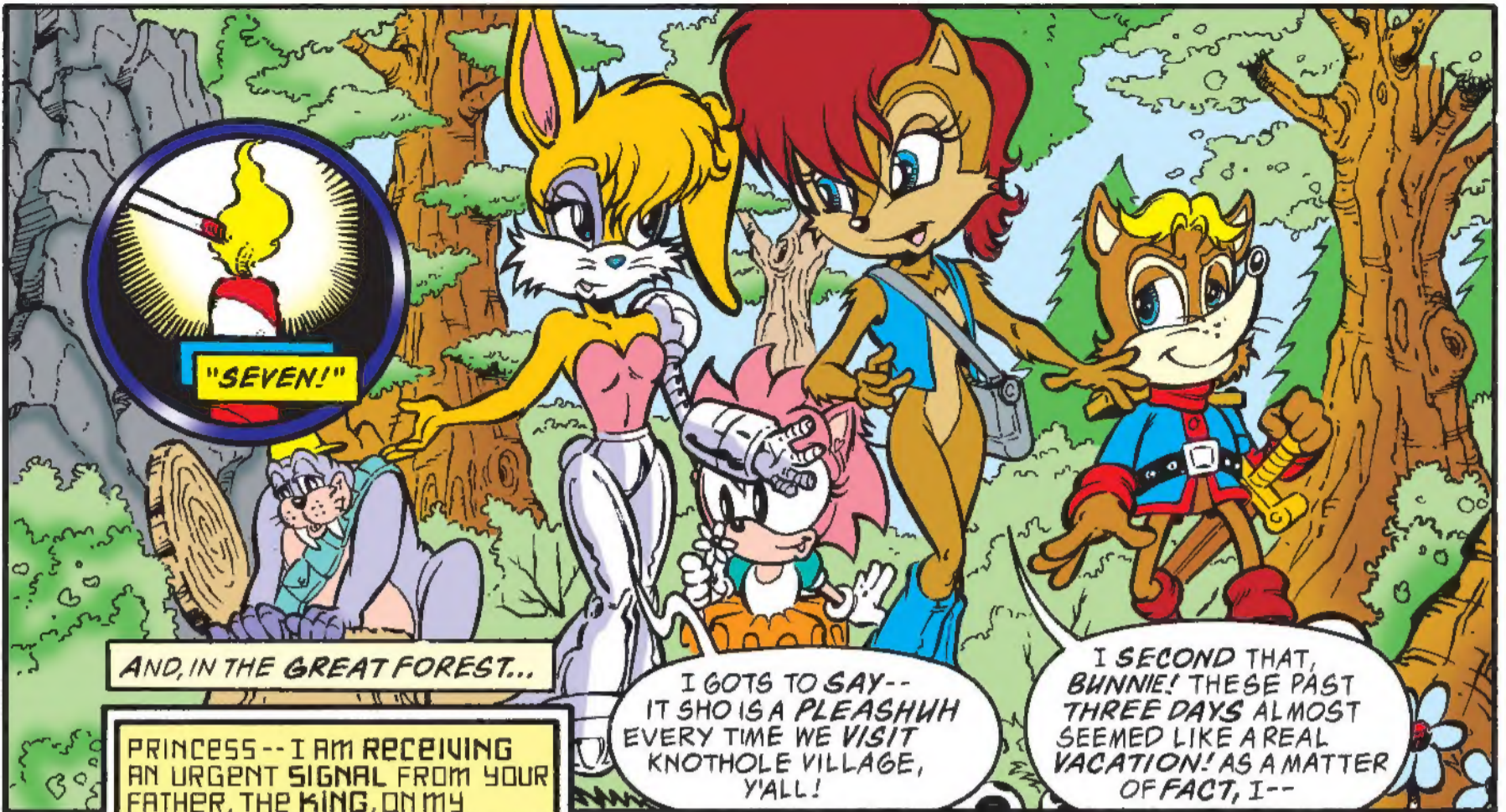
UHH... GHYS?

gasp!

THUNK

SURPRISE!

WE'RE BACK!

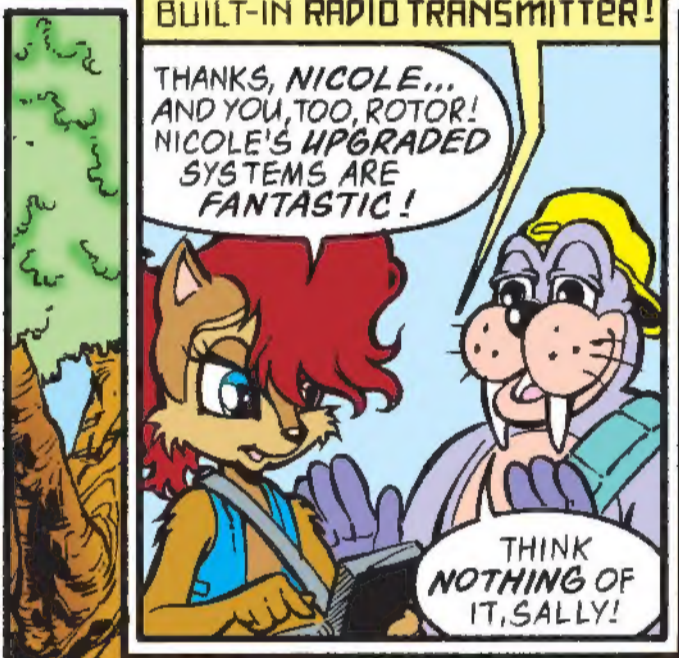


AND, IN THE GREAT FOREST...

PRINCESS -- I AM RECEIVING AN URGENT SIGNAL FROM YOUR FATHER, THE KING, ON MY BUILT-IN RADIO TRANSMITTER!

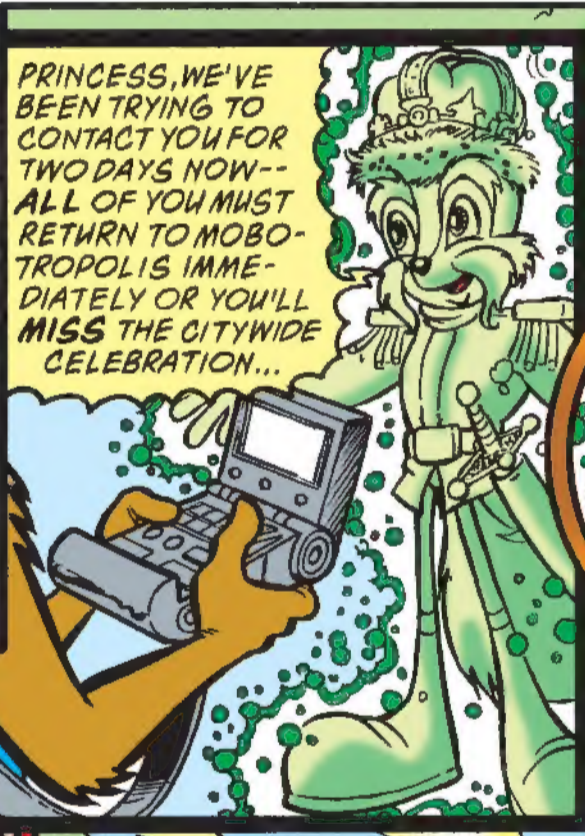
I GOTTS TO SAY-- IT SHO IS A PLEASHUH EVERY TIME WE VISIT KNOTHOLE VILLAGE, Y'ALL!

I SECOND THAT, BUNNIE! THESE PAST THREE DAYS ALMOST SEEMED LIKE A REAL VACATION! AS A MATTER OF FACT, I--



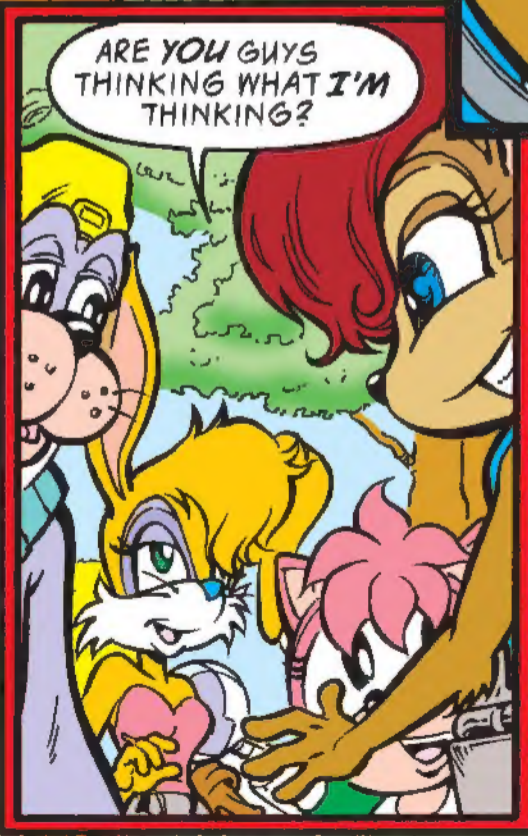
THANKS, NICOLE... AND YOU, TOO, ROTOR! NICOLE'S UPGRADED SYSTEMS ARE FANTASTIC!

THINK NOTHING OF IT, SALLY!

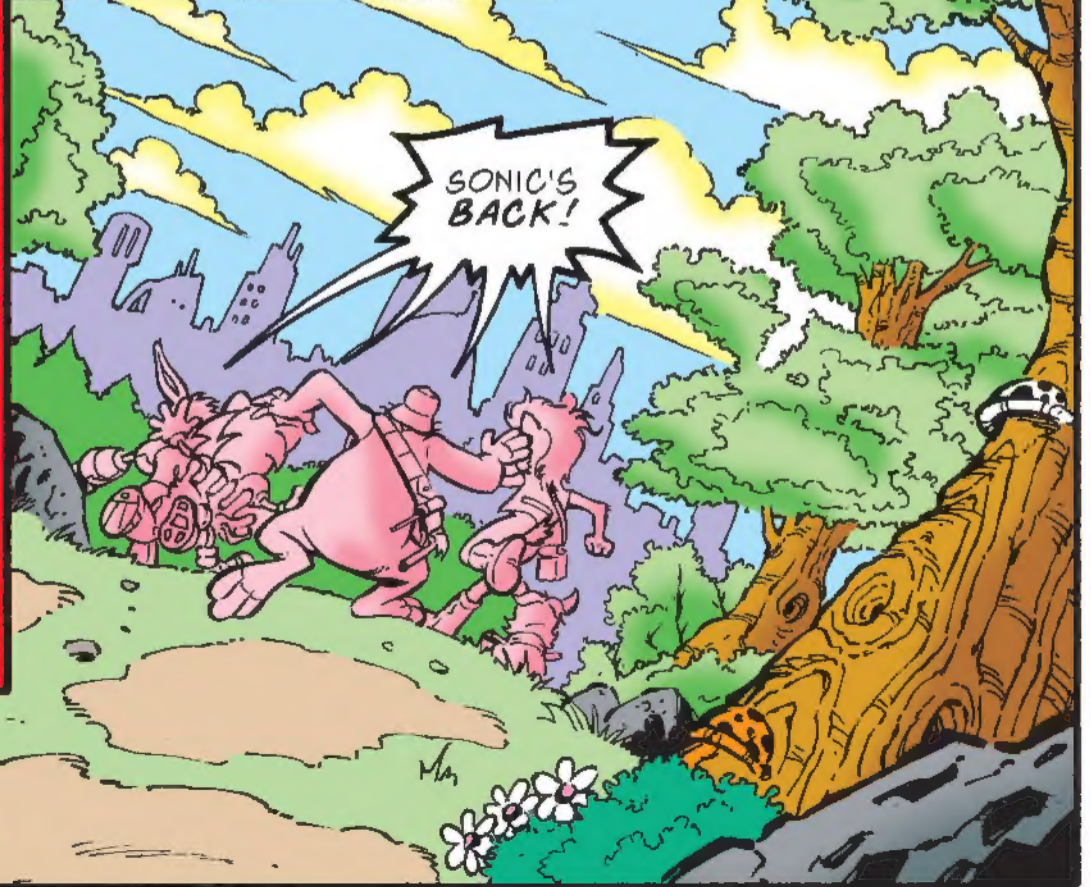


PRINCESS, WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO CONTACT YOU FOR TWO DAYS NOW-- ALL OF YOU MUST RETURN TO MOBOTROPOLIS IMMEDIATELY OR YOU'LL MISS THE CITYWIDE CELEBRATION...

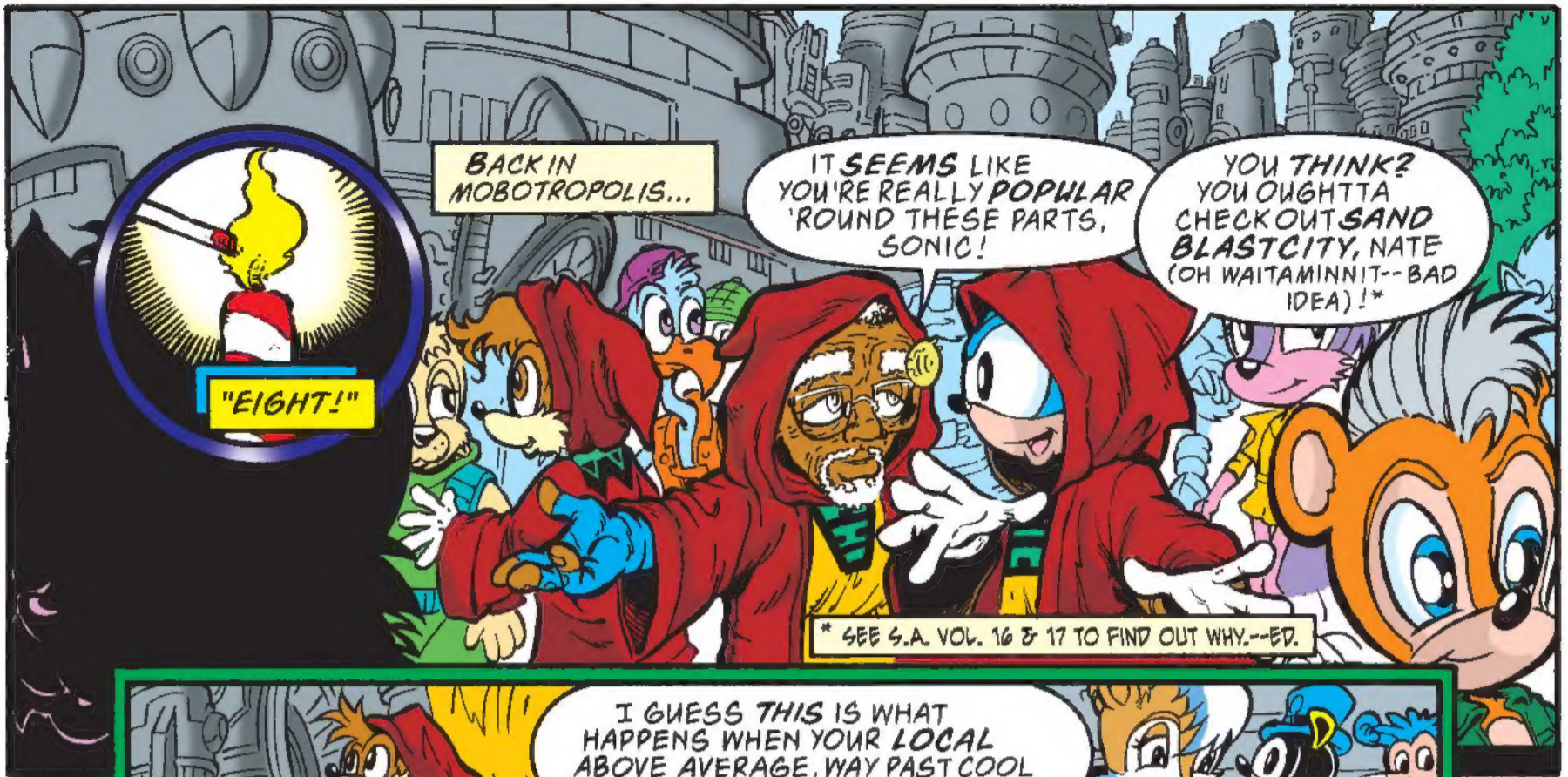
...TO HONOR SOMEONE FROM YOUR PAST WHO HAS FINALLY RETURNED AFTER SOME TIME AWAY!



ARE YOU GUYS THINKING WHAT I'M THINKING?



SONIC'S BACK!



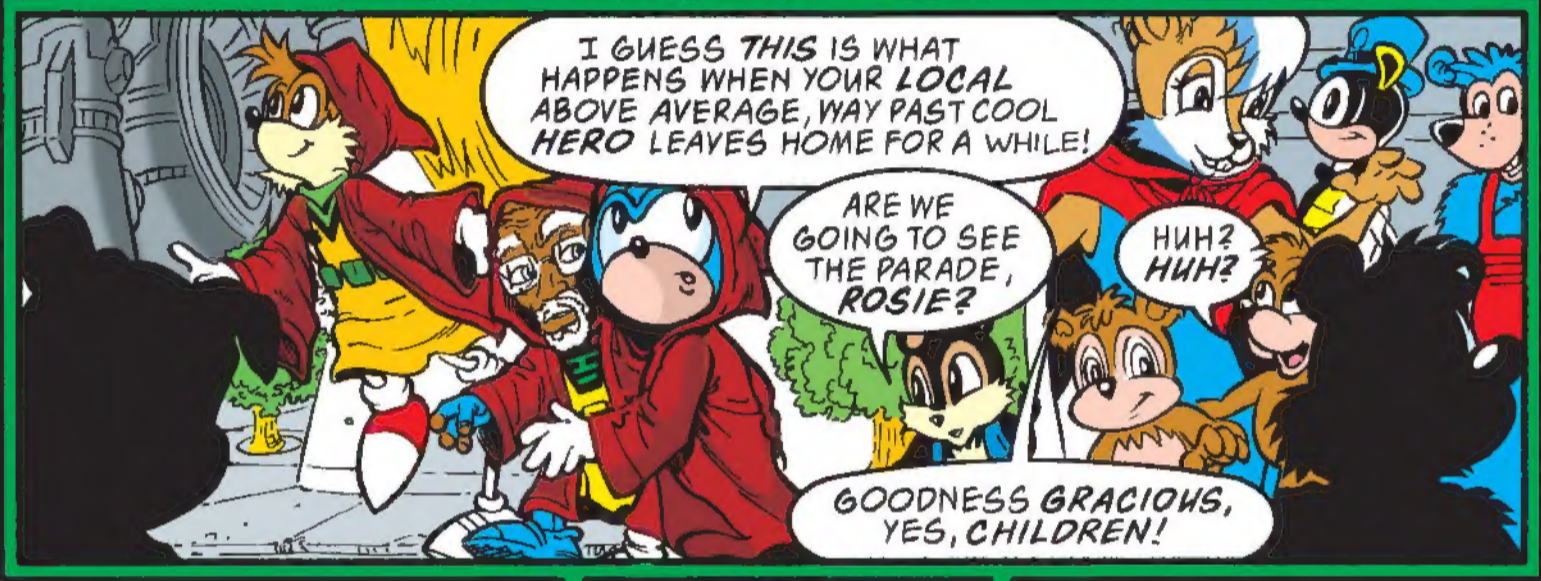
BACK IN MOBOTROPOLIS...

IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE REALLY POPULAR 'ROUND THESE PARTS, SONIC!

YOU THINK? YOU OUGHTTA CHECK OUT SAND BLAST CITY, NATE (OH WAITAMINNIIT--BAD IDEA)!*

"EIGHT!"

* SEE S.A. VOL. 16 & 17 TO FIND OUT WHY.--ED.



I GUESS THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOUR LOCAL ABOVE AVERAGE, WAY PAST COOL HERO LEAVES HOME FOR A WHILE!

ARE WE GOING TO SEE THE PARADE, ROSIE?

HUH? HUH?

GOODNESS GRACIOUS, YES, CHILDREN!



STAY ON THE GROUND, TAILS!

THE WAY YOU HOVER MIGHT BLOW OUR COVER!

SORRY!

?



THAT CLOAKED TRIO-- THEIR VOICES HAVE A FAMILIAR RING!

EXCUSE ME! GENTLEMEN -- HELLO THERE!

OH NO. OH NO. OH NO.



OH NO! LOOK OUT!

BONUS PIN-UP



**PRO ART BY
FORMER "BRENDA STARR" COMIC STRIP ARTIST
RAMONA FRADON.
COLOR & ENJOY!**



"NINE!"

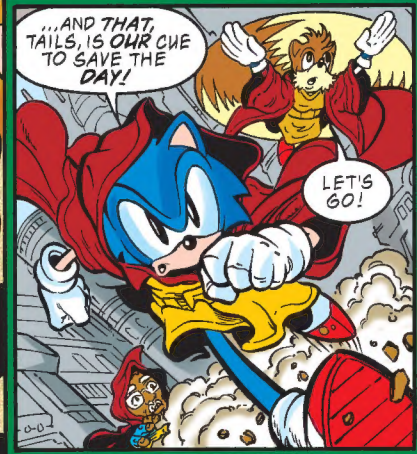
RUN!

THE SKIES ARE FALLING!

FUN-KRAKSH!

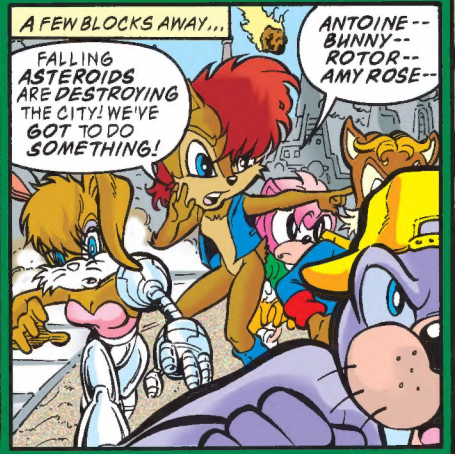
"TEN!"

SAY-- THIS ISN'T PART O' THE CELEBRATION...



...AND THAT, TAILS, IS OUR CUE TO SAVE THE DAY!

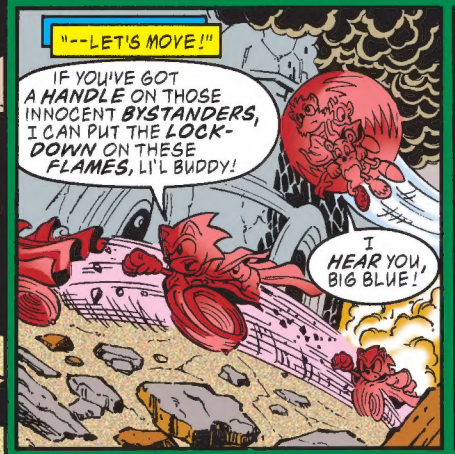
LET'S GO!



A FEW BLOCKS AWAY...

FALLING ASTEROIDS ARE DESTROYING THE CITY! WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING!

ANTOINE-- BUNNY-- ROTOR-- AMY ROSE--



"--LET'S MOVE!"

IF YOU'VE GOT A HANDLE ON THOSE INNOCENT BYSTANDERS, I CAN PUT THE LOCK-DOWN ON THESE FLAMES, LI'L BUDDY!

I HEAR YOU, BIG BLUE!



FALLING ASTEROIDS? WHY, OF ALL THE UNLIKELY--!



"ELEVEN!"

FW
BO
HS

HOORAY,
DULCY!

WHAT
HE SAID!

Y'ALL HANG
TIGHT, Y'HEAR?
IT'S BUNNIE
RABBOT TO
THE RESCUE!

THIS WAY,
CITIZENS!

ALORS! MY
NEW TROUSERS
--WE ARE VERY
NEARLY
SINGED!

SEEMS
LIKE WE'VE
GOT OUR-
SELVES
A--

WHOOOSH!

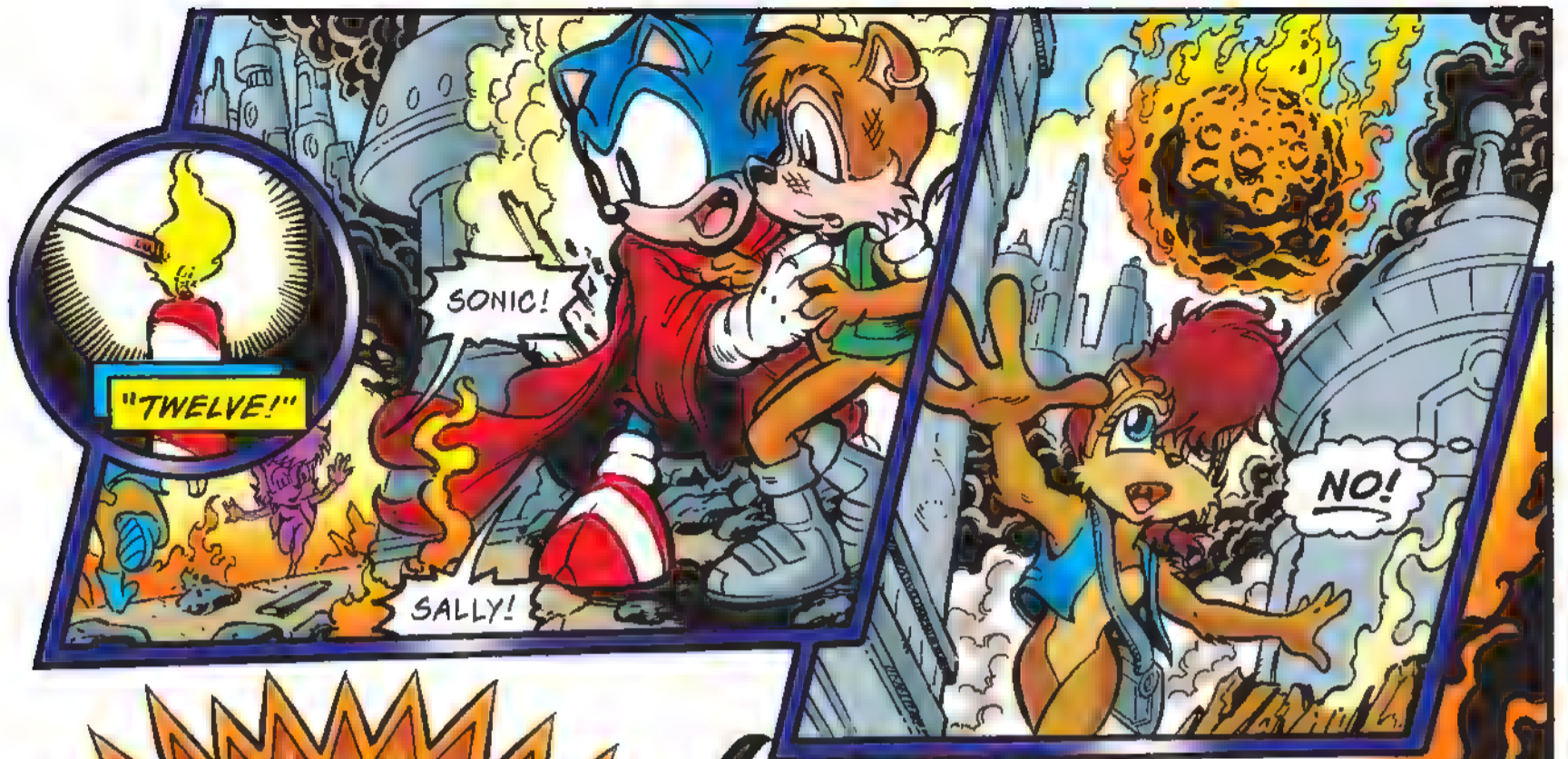
NICOLE--
CAN YOU
GIVE ME AN
ANALYSIS
OF THE
SITUATION?
HOW COULD
ANY OF THIS
BE HAPPENING
IN THE FIRST
PLACE?

--BUT NOT
CLOSE
ENOUGH TO
BE CAUGHT
BY ITS
GRAVITY!

--MYSTERY?
HOLD IT ONE
SECOND! A
SPEEDING FIGURE
--RUSHING OFF TO
SAVE HELPLESS
INNOCENTS?

ACCORDING TO MY ASTRONOMICS
FILE, A CLUSTER OF ASTEROIDS
WAS SCHEDULED TO PASS WITHIN
CLOSE PROXIMITY TO PLANET
MOBIUS, PRINCESS SALLY--



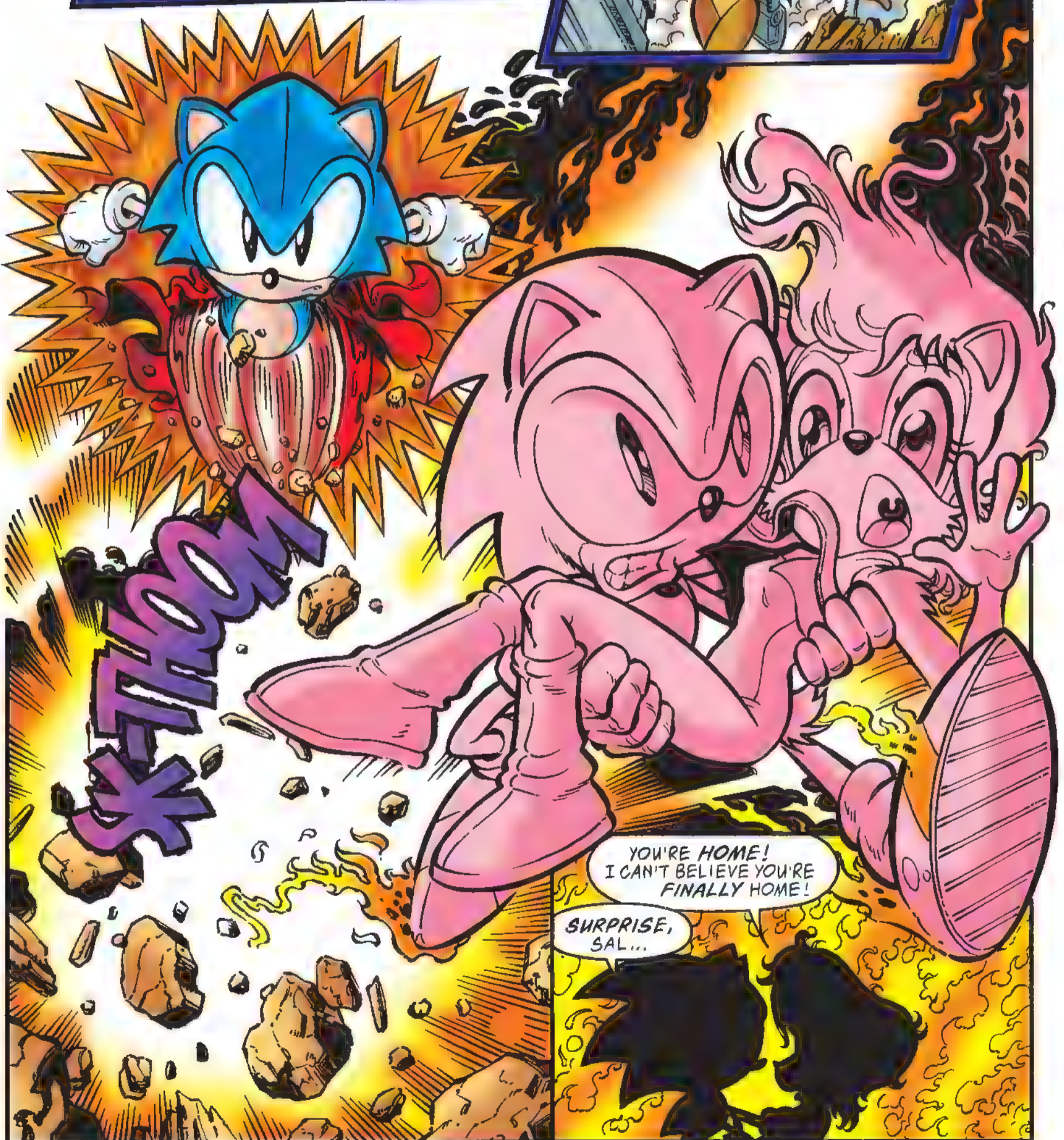


SONIC!

NO!

"TWELVE!"

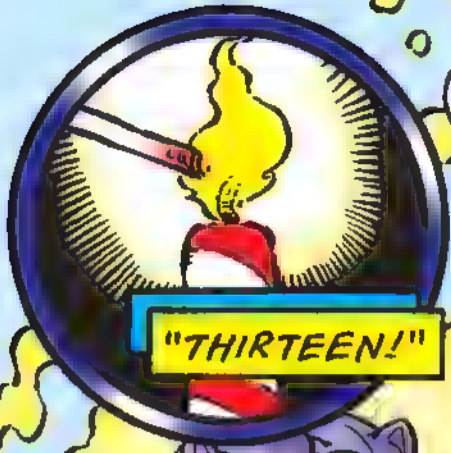
SALLY!



WAAAAH

YOU'RE HOME!
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE
FINALLY HOME!

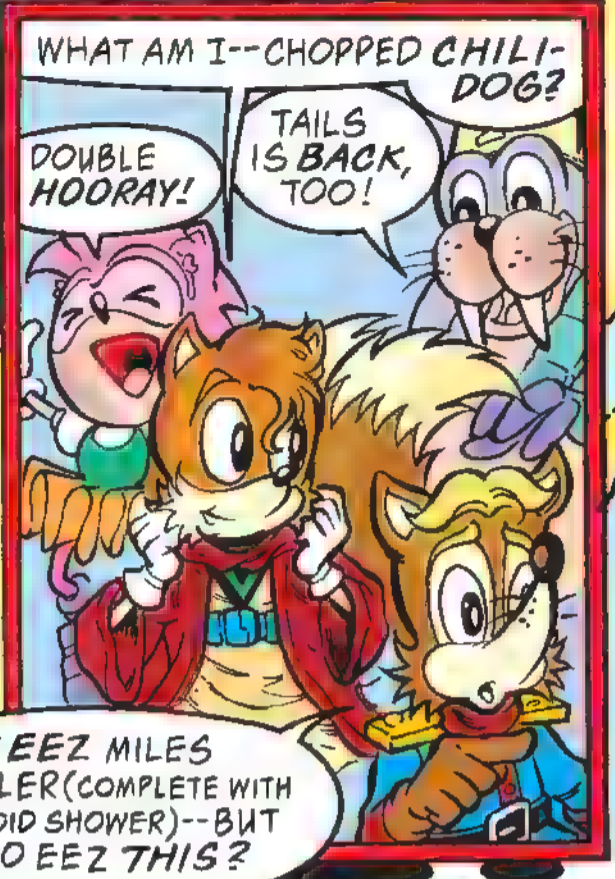
SURPRISE,
SAL...



LOOK, GANG, IT IS SONIC! AND THE ASTEROIDS HAVE STOPPED!

HOORAY!

AND, AS USUAL, HE BRINGS WITH HIM ZEE SONIC BOOM!



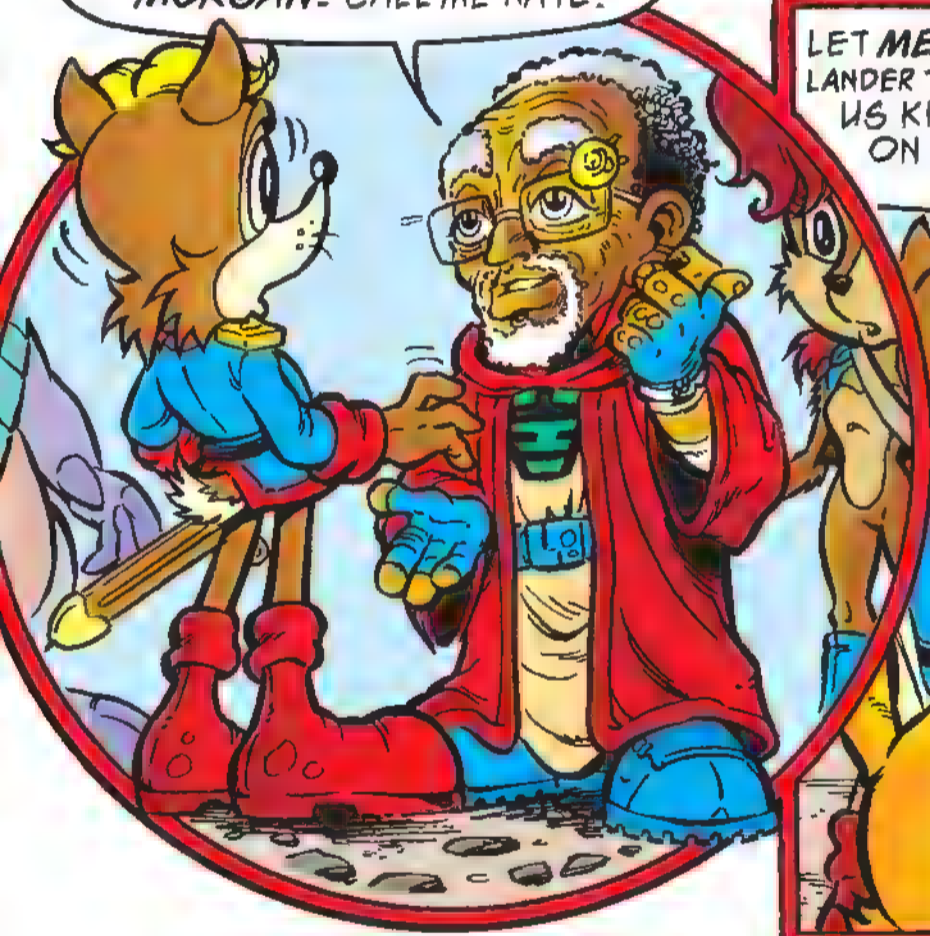
WHAT AM I--CHOPPED CHILI-DOG?

DOUBLE HOORAY!

TAILS IS BACK, TOO!

ITEEZ MILES PROWLER (COMPLETE WITH ASTEROID SHOWER)-- BUT WHO EEZ THIS?

I, YOUTHFUL GENT, AM NATHANIEL BEAUREGARD MORGAN! CALL ME NATE!



LET ME HANDLE THIS, NATE (THAT OVER-LANDER THING, Y'KNOW)... THIS DUDE HELPED US KICK IXIS NAUGHS' BUTT RIGHT ON BACK TO THE ZONE OF SILENCE!*

I SAW IT WITH MY OWN TWO EYES!



* SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 17--ED.



OH MY GOODNESS -- SONIC! IS MY FATHER OKAY? HE TOLD US YOU HAD RETURNED AND--

WAITAMINNIT, SAL-- I HAVEN'T SEEN YOUR DAD! I'M SURPRISED HE'D EVEN KNOW I WAS BACK-- BUT THEN WHY THE BIG CELEBRATION?





HIS HIGHNESS MUST HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE FROM YOUR PAST WHEN HE CONTACTED YOU EARLIER, SALLY!

I SAY WE GO FIND OUT!

"FOURTEEN!"



"... AT CASTLE ACORN!"

PRINCESS, I AM QUITE PLEASED TO SEE YOU HERE IN SUCH RECORD TIME AND DOUBLY OVERJOYED THAT YOU'RE UNHARMED BY TODAY'S DISASTER!

THANKS DAD-- I'M GLAD TO SEE THAT YOU'RE FINE, TOO! BUT LOOK, DAD-- SONIC HAS RETURNED FROM TRAVELLING THE GLOBE--*

*SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 15-18.--ED.

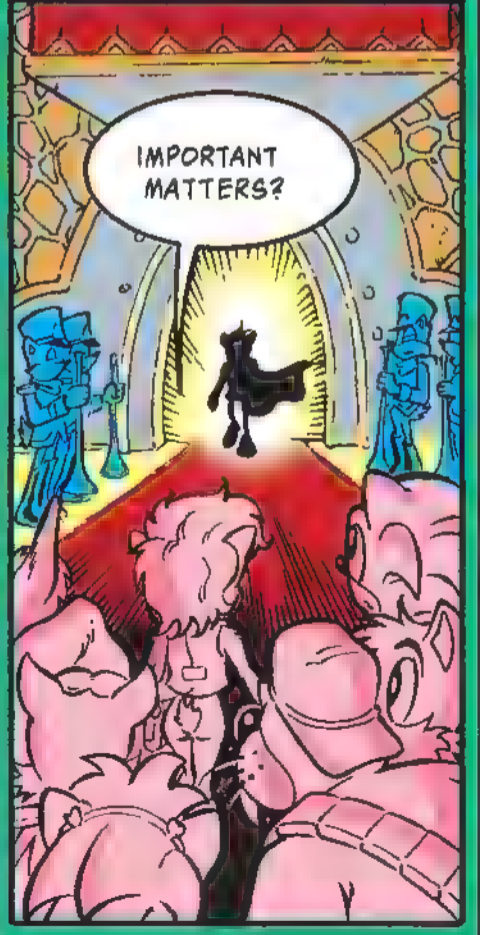


-- WITH AMAZING NEWS ABOUT HIS MISSION TO STOP IXIS NAVG--

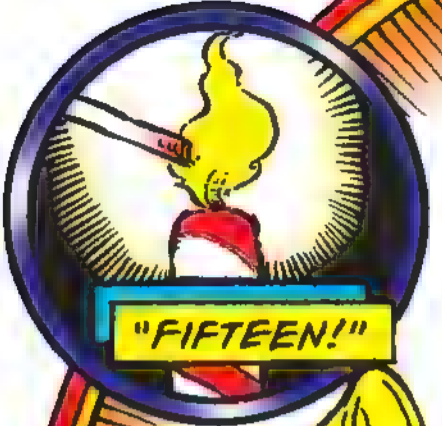
YES, YES, SALLY-- THAT'S ALL FINE AND WELL, BUT WE'VE NO TIME FOR SUCH TRIVIALITIES!



NOT THAT I MEAN TO DIMINISH SONIC'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS... HOWEVER, WE HAVE IMPORTANT MATTERS TO ATTEND TO!



IMPORTANT MATTERS?

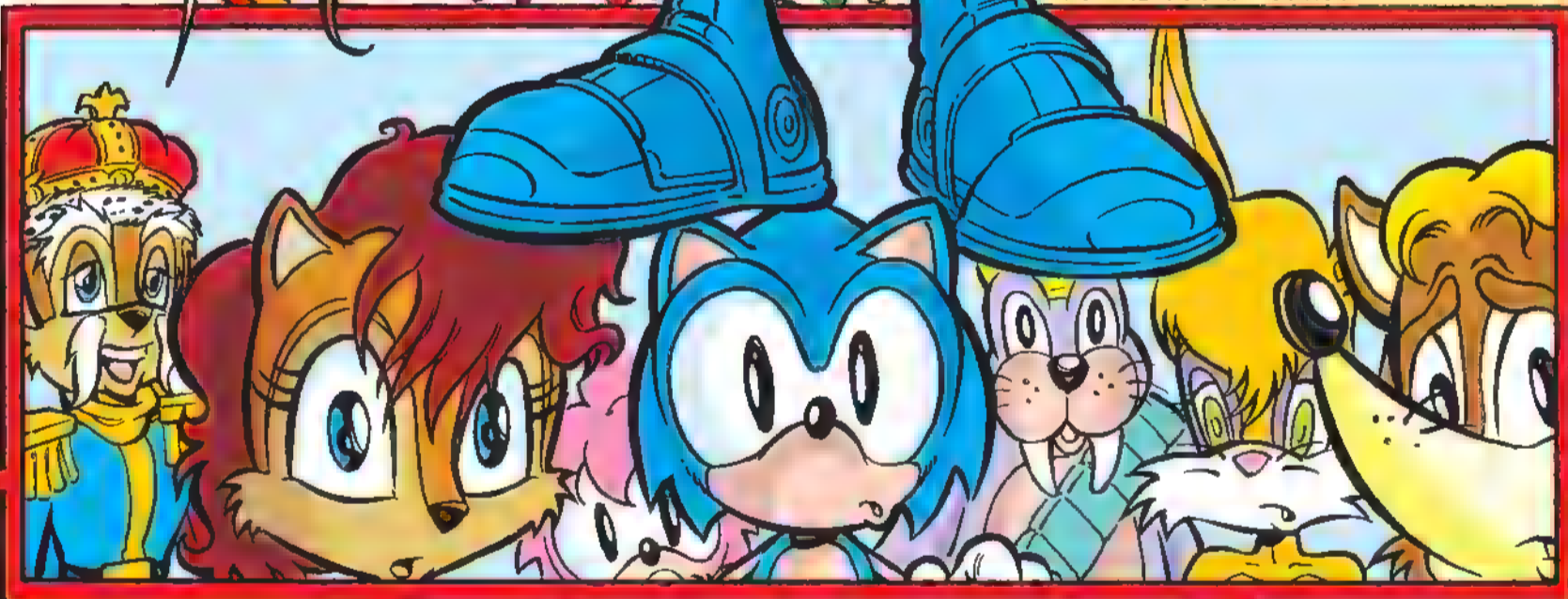


PRESENTING...
PRINCE ELIAS
ACORN!

AFTER BEING SECRETLY
SMUGGLED TO THE FLOATING
ISLAND* AT THE ONSET OF THE
GREAT WAR BETWEEN US AND
THE OVERLANDERS, MY SON
ELIAS AND MY QUEEN ALICIA
LIVED THERE UNTIL TODAY!
GEOFFREY ST. JOHN'S MISSION
WAS TO FIND THEM--AND FIND
THEM HE DID!

AND--AS OF
TWO DAYS AGO--THEY
ARE ONCE AGAIN WHERE
THEY BELONG... BACK IN
THE KINGDOM OF
ACORN!

* SEE SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 17, AVAILABLE
NOW, AND KNUCKLES ARCHIVES VOL. 4,
COMING SOON! --EDITOR



NOW WHAT'S
THIS HIDDEN HORROR
BENEATH THIS HERE
HOOD--?

HUH?! IT'S A BLEEDIN' OVERLANDER--MAKIN'
AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON OUR LIEGE,
NO DOUBT! WELL, THEY SHOULD HAVE SENT
SOMEONE TALLER, MATE!

BACK OFF, ST. JOHN! IF
YOU'VE GOT A PROBLEM--

WELCOME HOME, UNCLE
NATE! I'VE MISSED
YOU!

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU
AS WELL, MAX... IT'S GOOD
TO SEE YOU AS WELL.

WELL, SO MUCH FOR
MY BIG BIRTHDAY HOME-
COMING CELEBRA--

GEOFFREY! GEOFFREY! YOU'VE MADE A
SIMPLE MISTAKE... FOR THIS "OVERLANDER" YOU
REFER TO WAS ONCE THE SINGLE GREATEST
ALLY OF THE KINGDOM!

HOLD THAT THOUGHT,
HEDGEHOG, WHILE OUR
READERS FLIP THE
PAGE!

**HAPPY 16th
BIRTHDAY,**

**SONIC
THE
HEDGEHOG**



MAN, THAT WAS
WAY PAST CLOSE
(AND IT'S A GOOD THING,
TOO--I'M A SUCKER FOR
HAPPY ENDINGS)!

Tales of the Freedom Fighters

Presents:

LUPE AND THE WOLF PACK

PART 2

--REYNARD, LEETA, LYCO, CANUS, AND DIABLO-- HAVE REACHED THE SHORES ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GREAT RIVER AS A FIERCE STORM IS ABOUT TO BEGIN.

THOUGH THEY DEPARTED MOBOTROPOLIS WITH THE INTENTION OF RETURNING TO THEIR OWN KIND, DESTINY WORKS IN STRANGE WAYS, AND IT IS HERE, IN THE REMAINS OF A ONCE-PROUD CITY THAT WILL DETERMINE THEIR FUTURE...

NO SIGN OF ANYONE AROUND!

KEEP MOVING, LEETA!

I'M FINE, CANUS!

MY SISTER'S PROBLEM IS ANOTHER MATTER!

WHAT CAN I SAY? I JUST GET NERVOUS ON LADDERS!

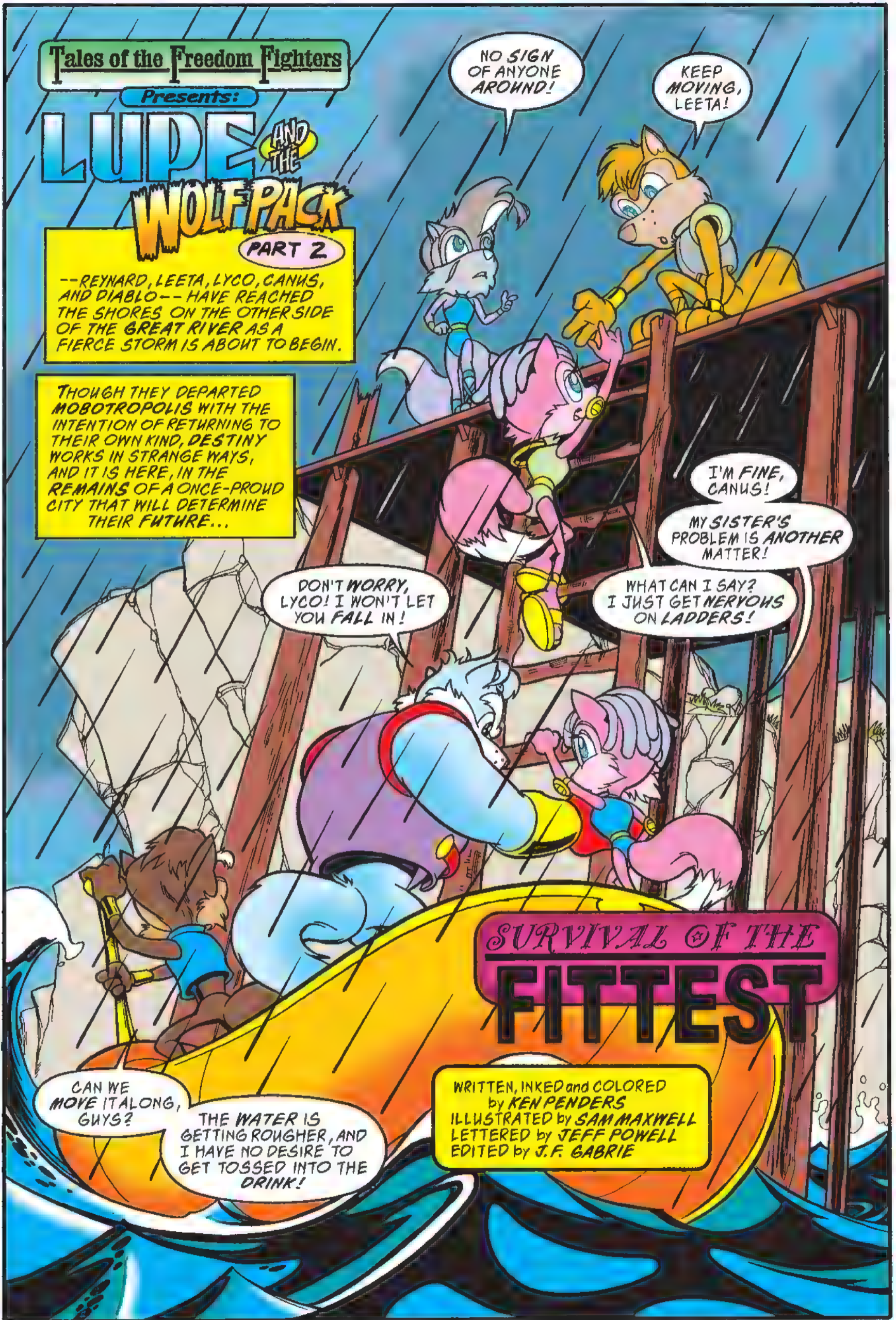
DON'T WORRY, LYCO! I WON'T LET YOU FALL IN!

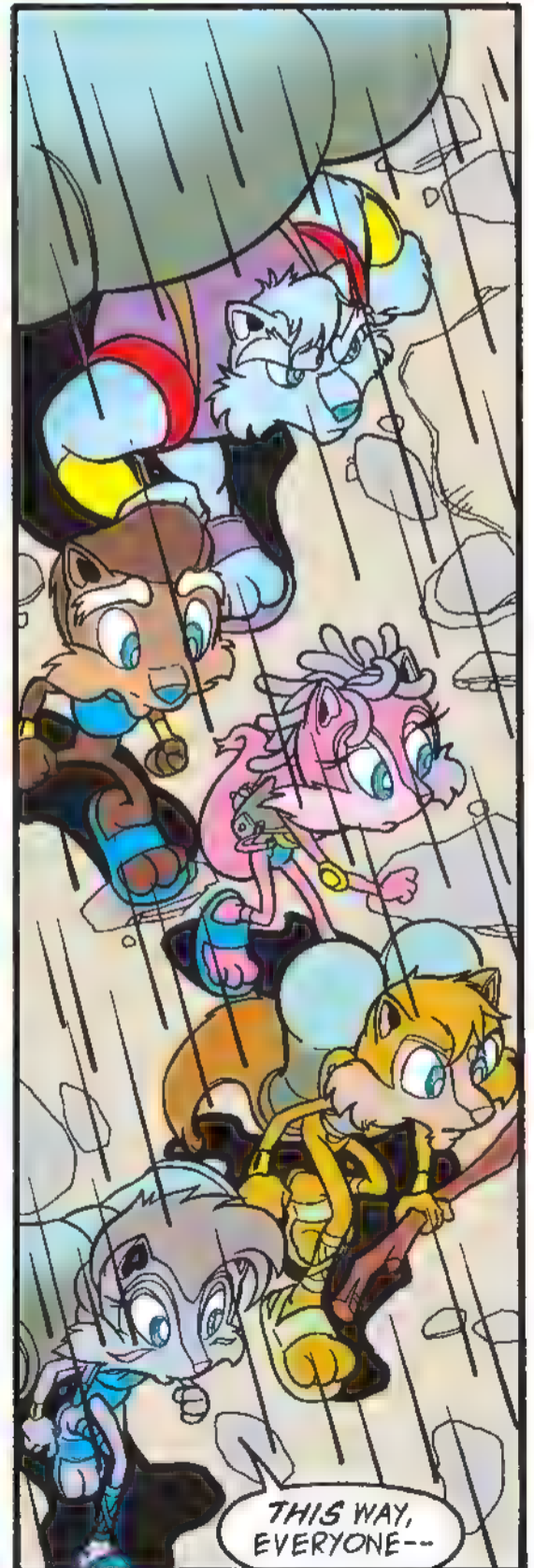
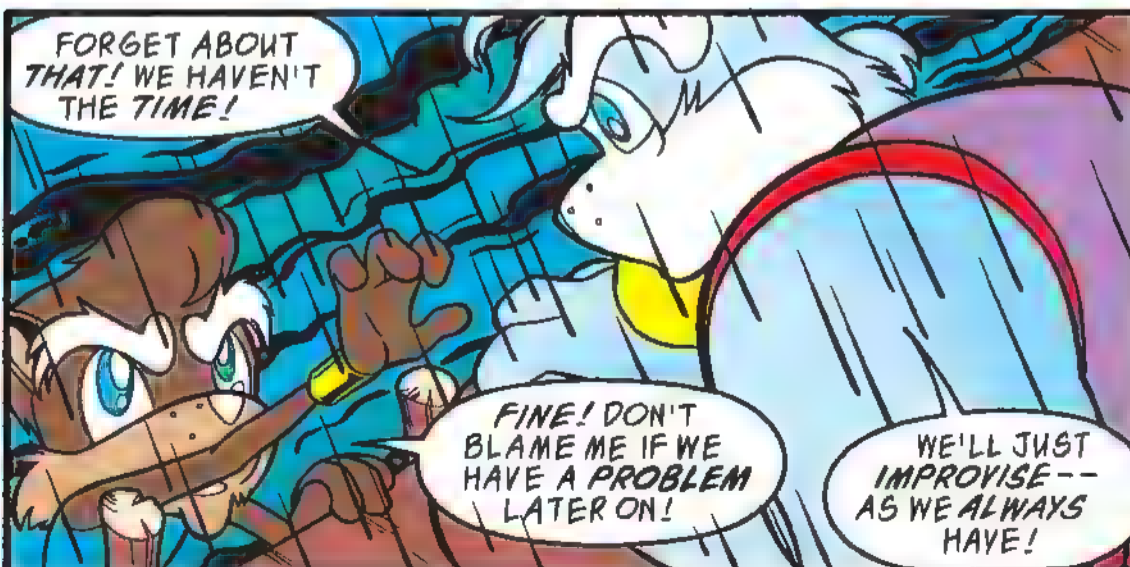
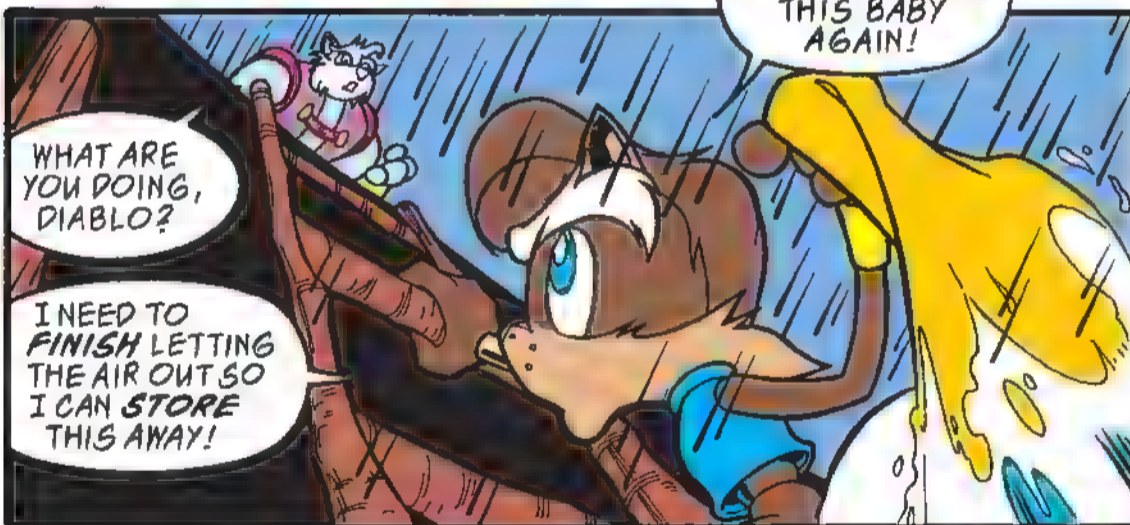
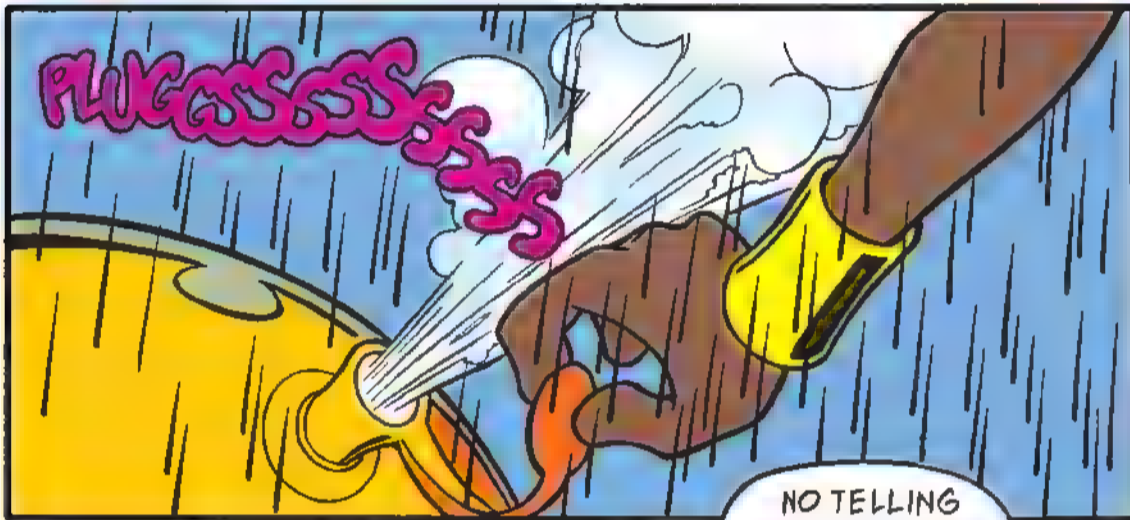
SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST

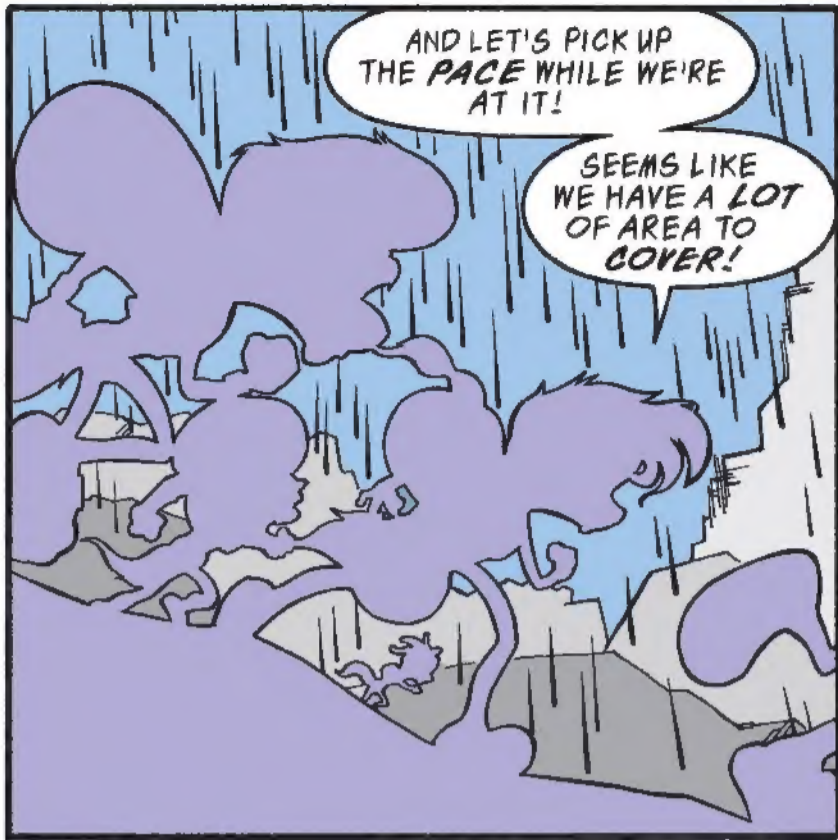
WRITTEN, INKED and COLORED by KEN PENDERS
ILLUSTRATED by SAM MAXWELL
LETTERED by JEFF POWELL
EDITED by J.F. GABRIE

CAN WE MOVE IT ALONG, GUYS?

THE WATER IS GETTING ROUGHER, AND I HAVE NO DESIRE TO GET TOSSED INTO THE DRINK!







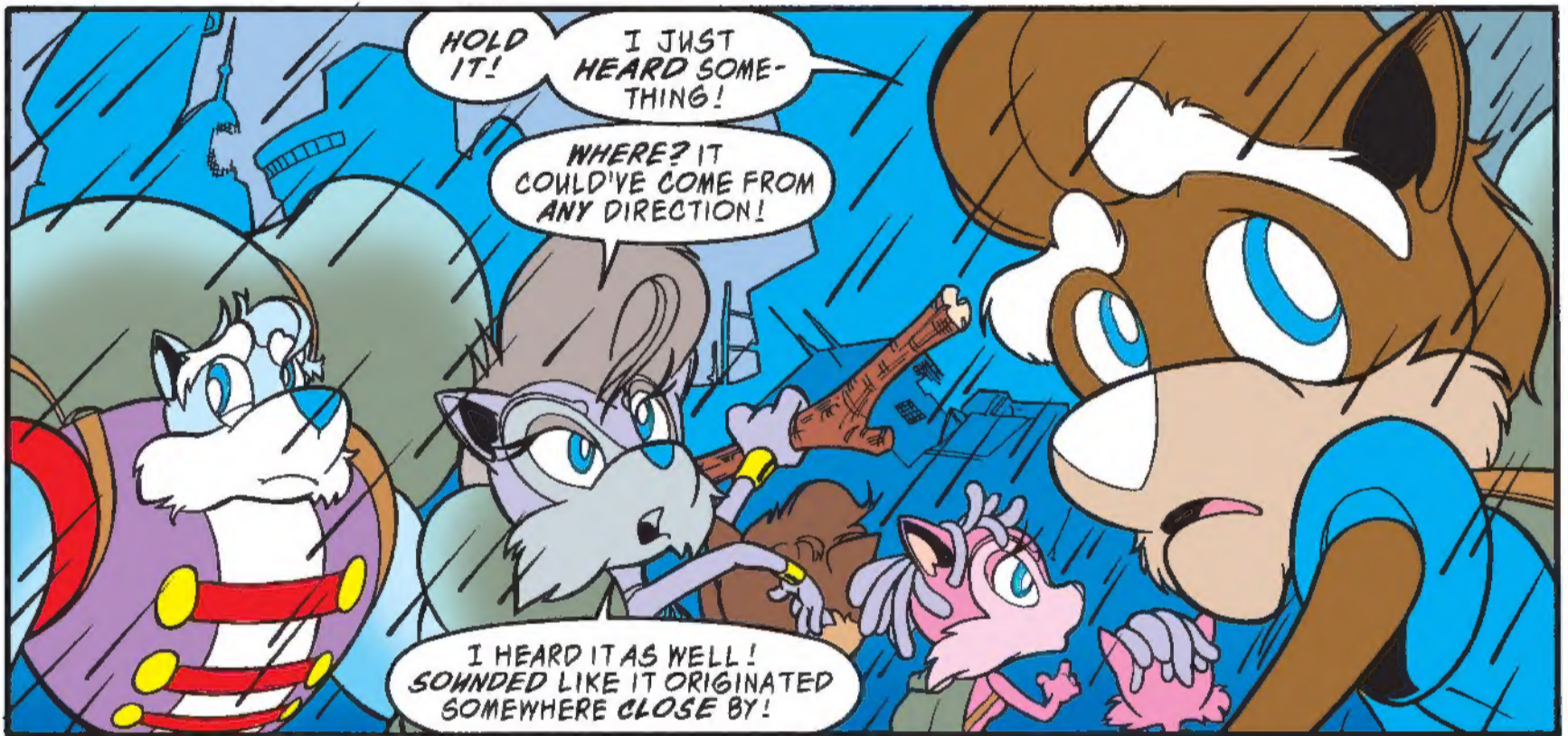
AND LET'S PICK UP THE PACE WHILE WE'RE AT IT!

SEEMS LIKE WE HAVE A LOT OF AREA TO COVER!



WHAT DO YOU THINK HAPPENED HERE, LUPE?

I DON'T SEE EVEN A TRACE OF 'BOT OR LIVING BEING AROUND!



HOLD IT!

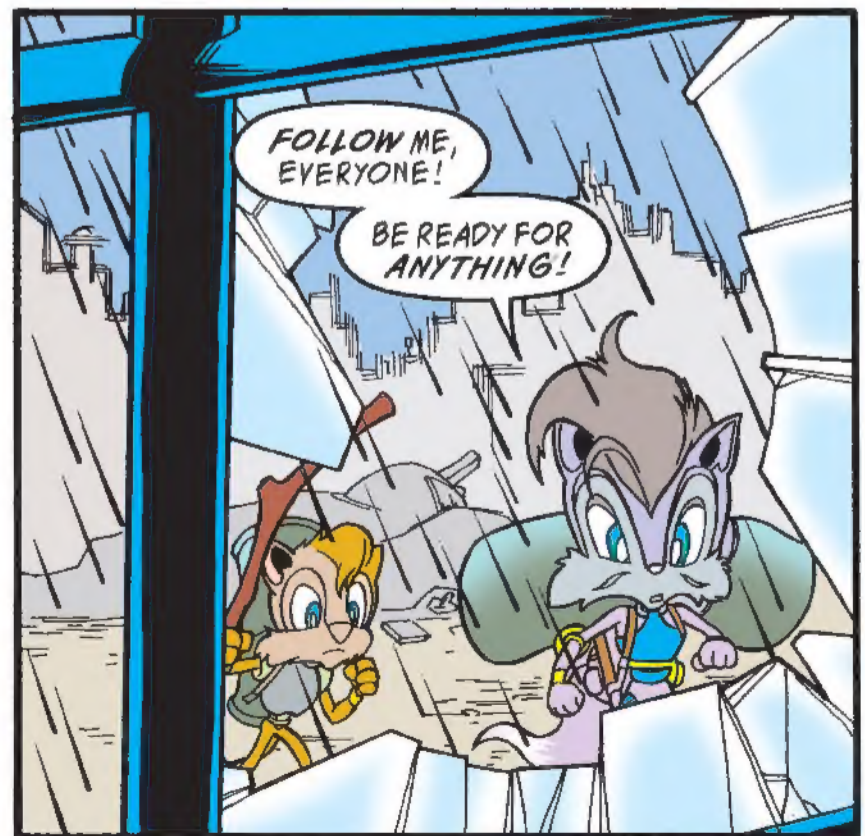
I JUST HEARD SOMETHING!

WHERE? IT COULD'VE COME FROM ANY DIRECTION!

I HEARD IT AS WELL! SOUNDED LIKE IT ORIGINATED SOMEWHERE CLOSE BY!

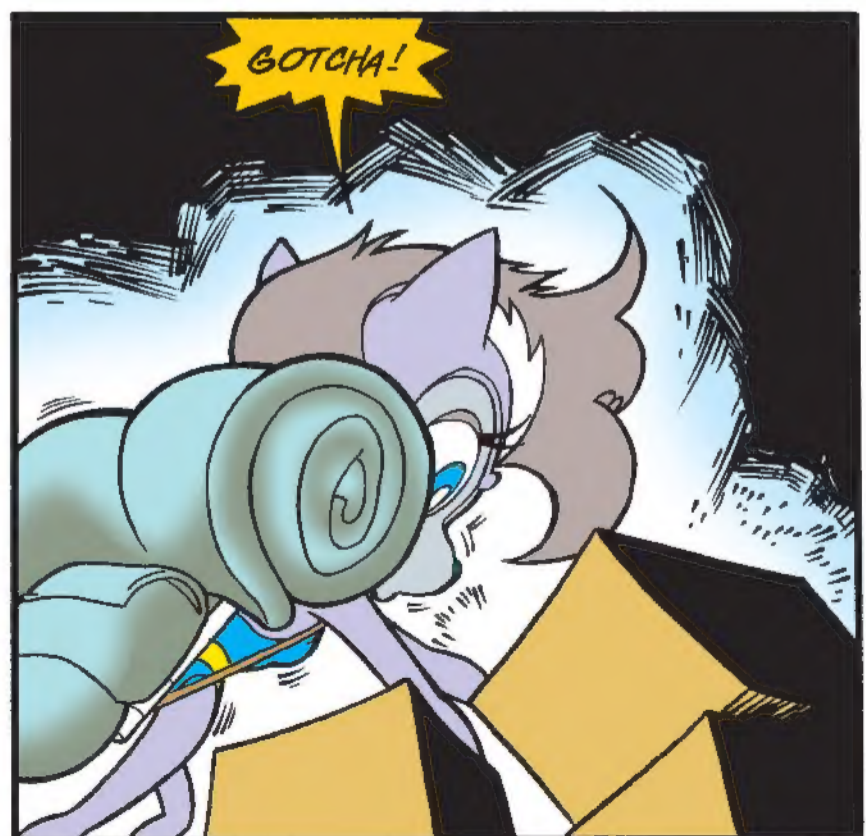
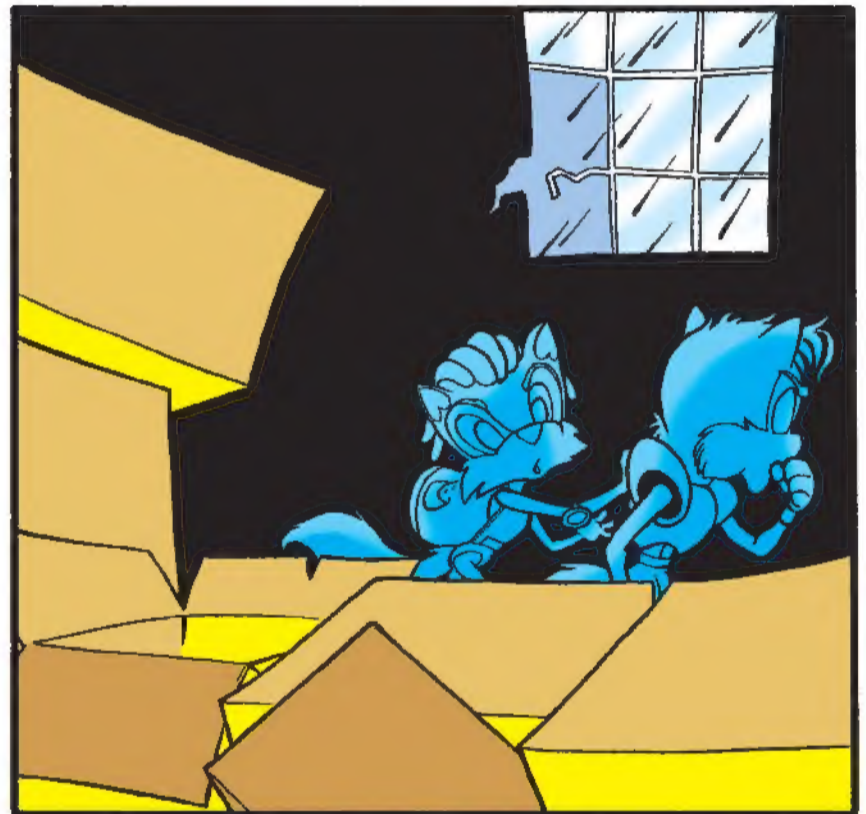
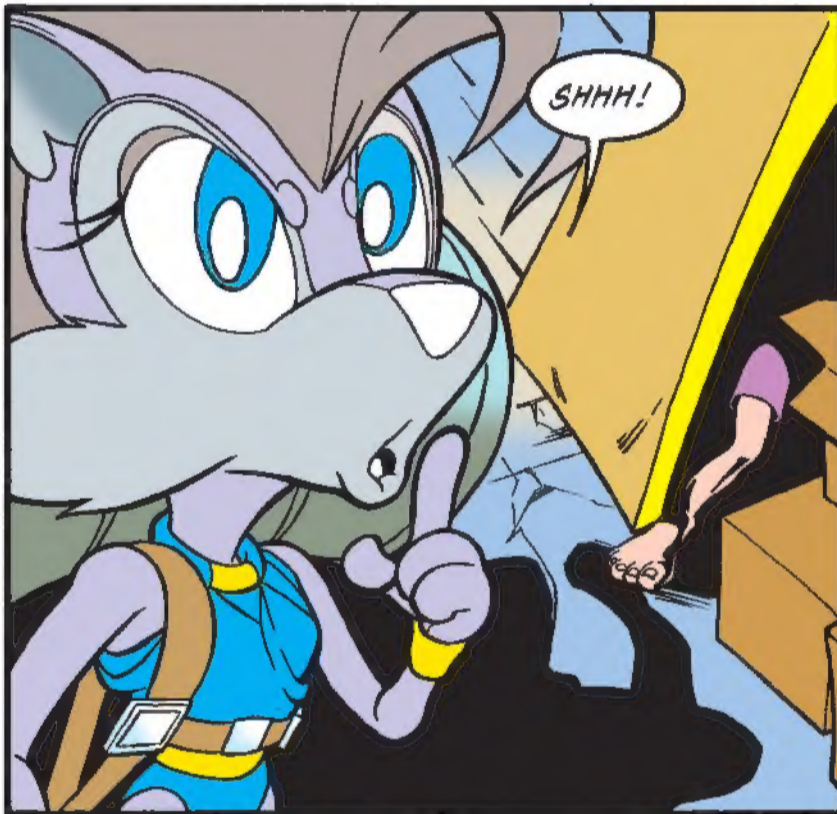
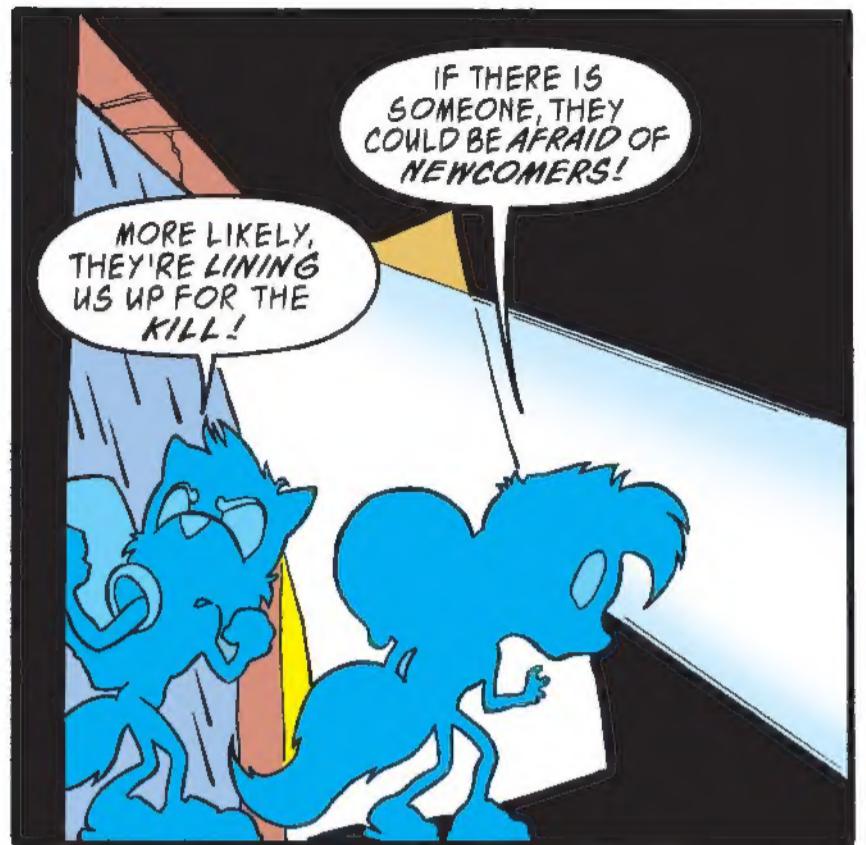
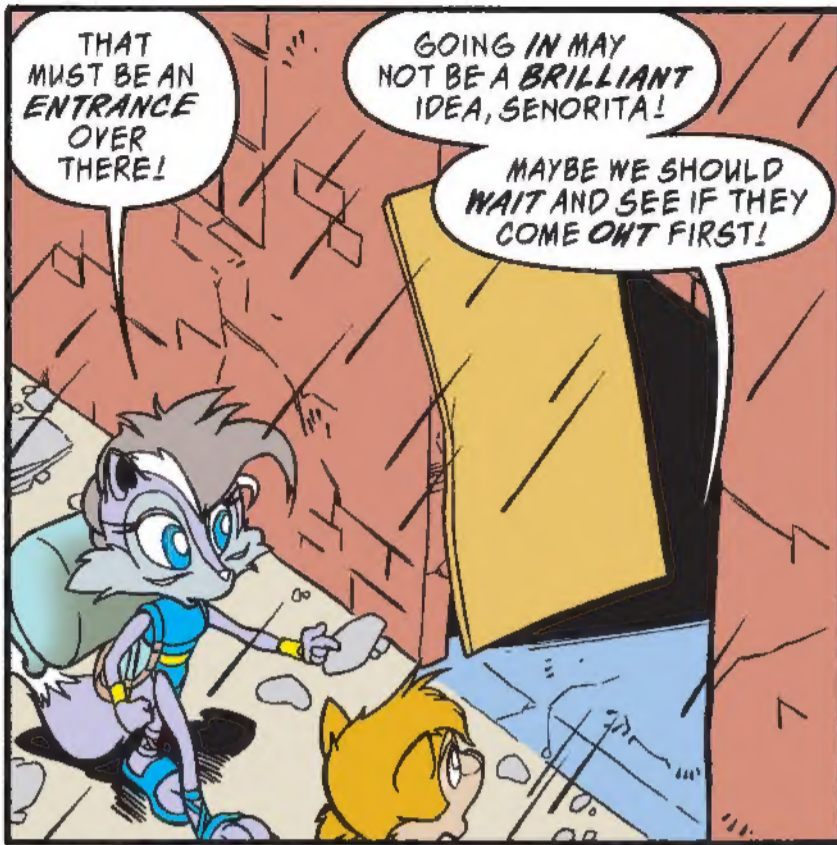


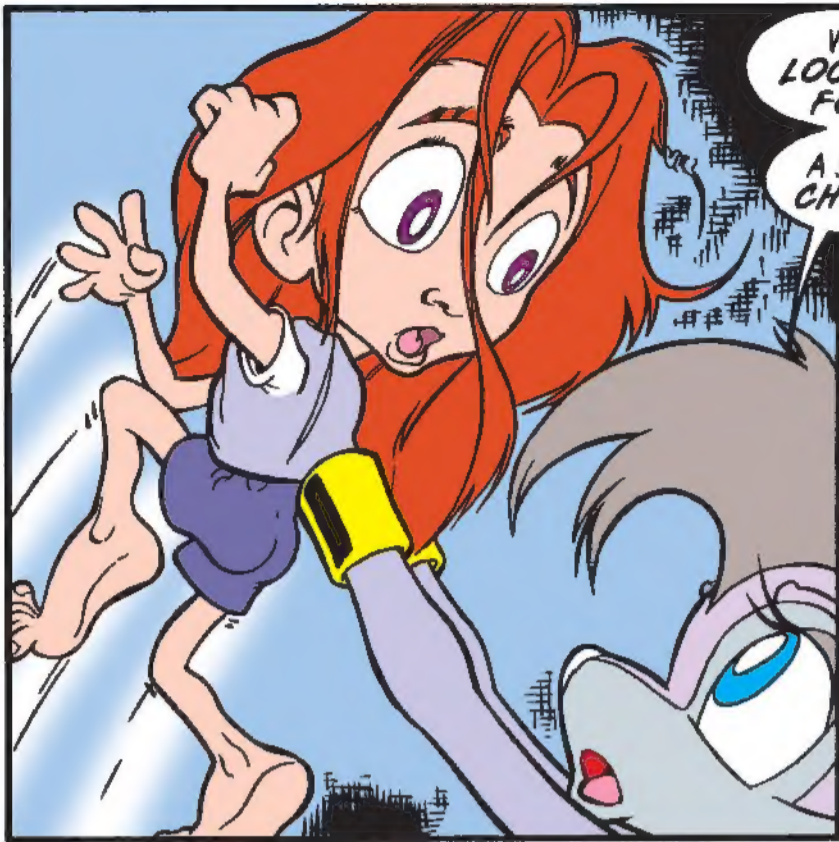
OVER THERE! I THOUGHT I JUST SAW SOMETHING MOVE!



FOLLOW ME, EVERYONE!

BE READY FOR ANYTHING!





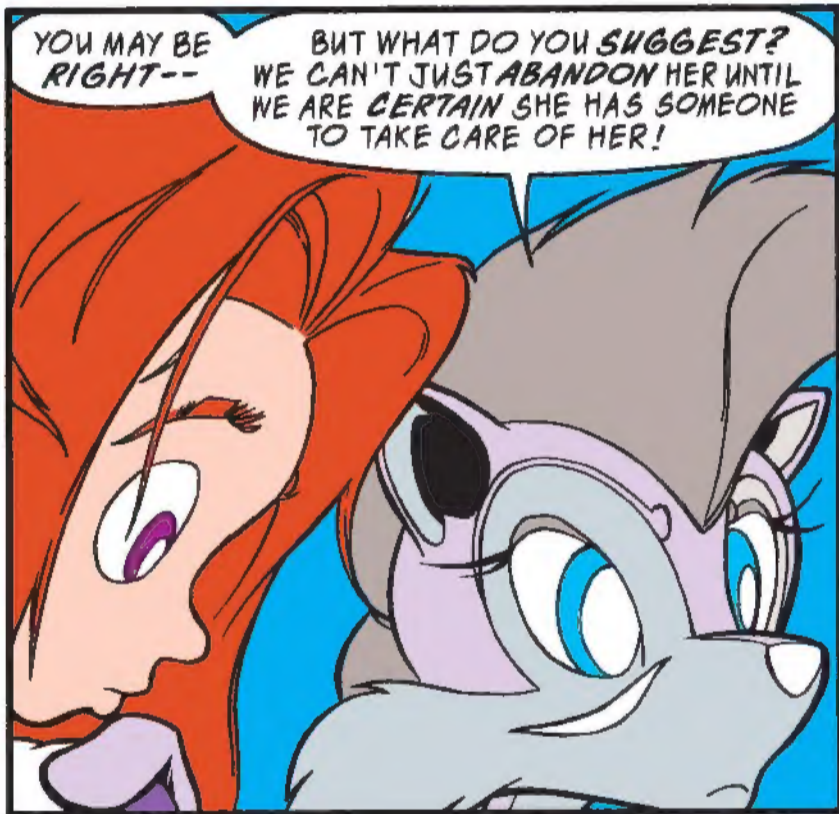
WILL YOU LOOK WHAT I'VE FOUND?

A SMALL CHILD!

NOT JUST A CHILD!

SHE'S AN OVERLANDER!

OTHERS OF HER KIND ARE MOST LIKELY NEARBY!



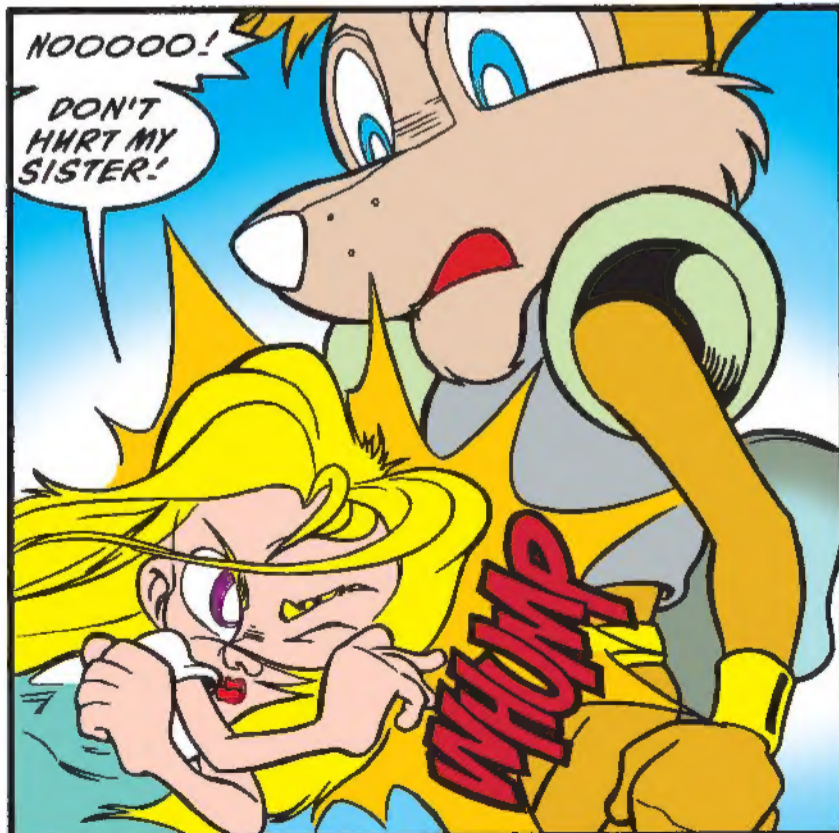
YOU MAY BE RIGHT--

BUT WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST? WE CAN'T JUST ABANDON HER UNTIL WE ARE CERTAIN SHE HAS SOMEONE TO TAKE CARE OF HER!



WHY TAKE CHANCES?

GET RID OF THE BRAT BEFORE SHE CAN LEAD US TO AN OVERLANDER TRAP!



NOOOOO!

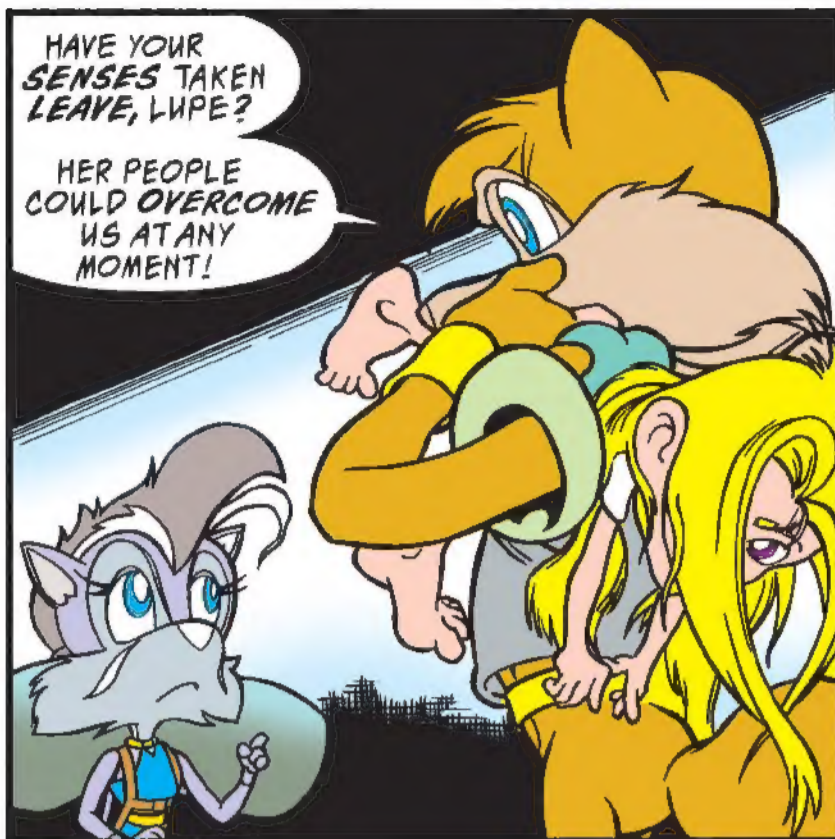
DON'T HURT MY SISTER!

WHUMP



AS I WAS SAYING, WHERE THERE'S ONE, THERE'S MORE!

DON'T YOU DARE HURT THAT CHILD, REYNARD!



HAVE YOUR SENSES TAKEN LEAVE, LUPE?

HER PEOPLE COULD OVERCOME US AT ANY MOMENT!



GIVE ME THE CHILD, REYNARD!

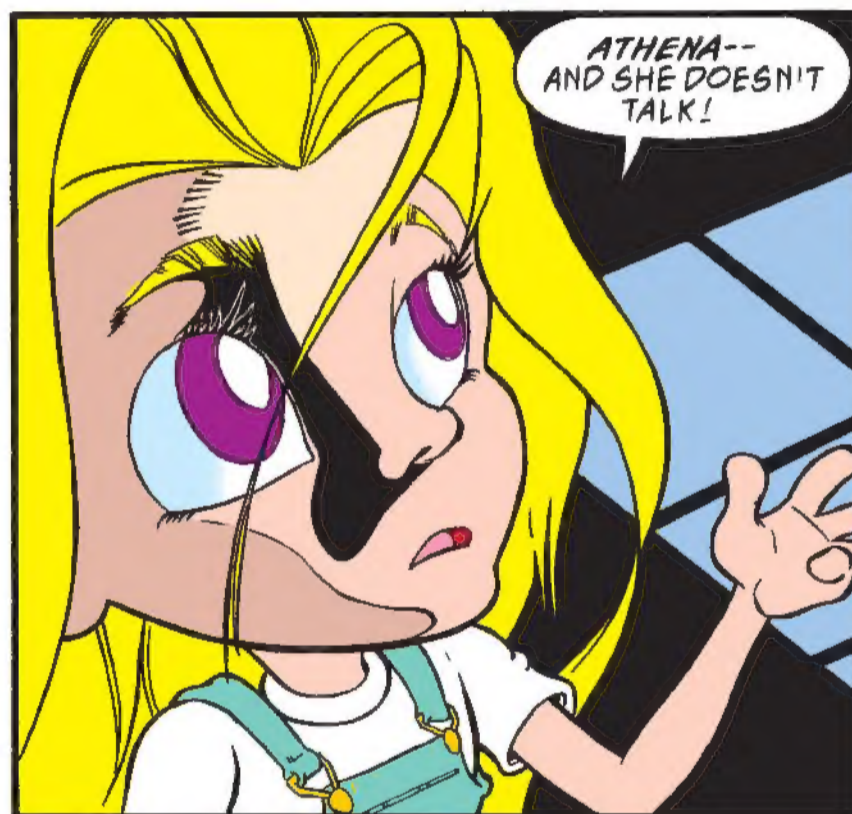


I PROMISE YOU NO ONE IS GOING TO HARM YOU OR YOUR SISTER!

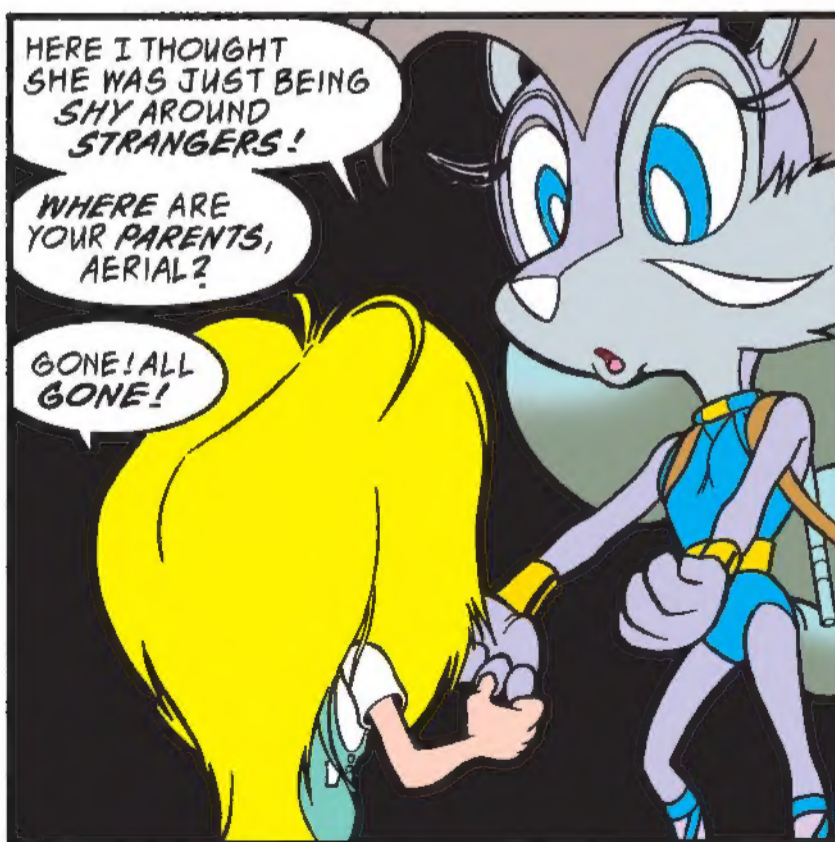
DO YOU HAVE A NAME, CHILD?

AND YOUR SISTER-- DOES SHE HAVE A NAME AS WELL?

AERIAL. MY NAME IS AERIAL!



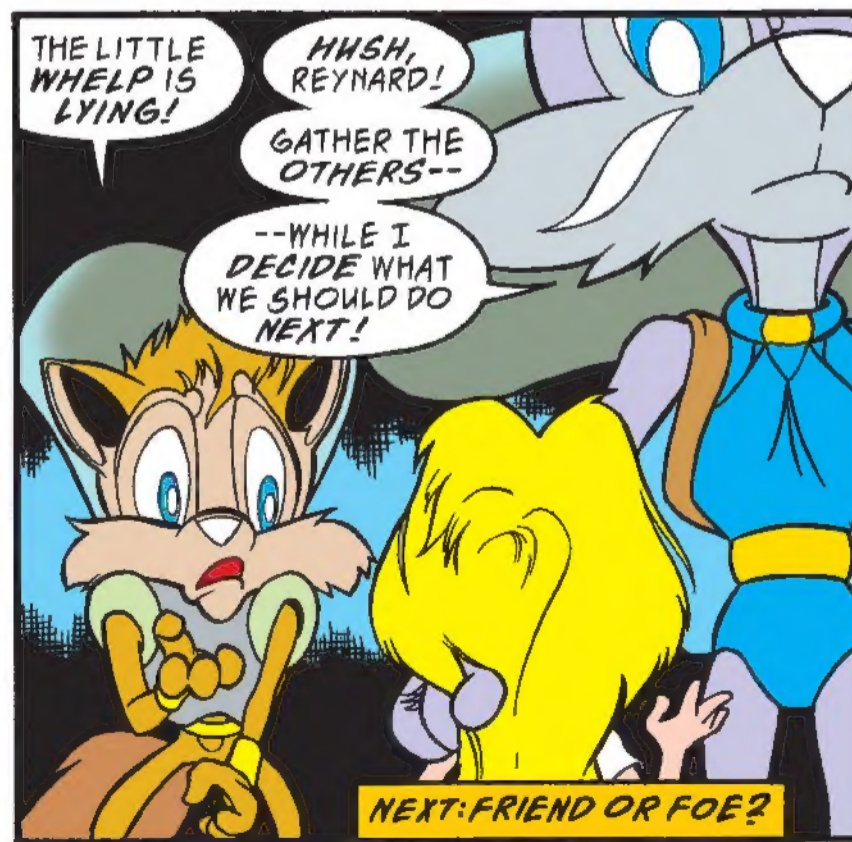
ATHENA-- AND SHE DOESN'T TALK!



HERE I THOUGHT SHE WAS JUST BEING SHY AROUND STRANGERS!

WHERE ARE YOUR PARENTS, AERIAL?

GONE! ALL GONE!



THE LITTLE WHELP IS LYING!

MHSH, REYNARD!

GATHER THE OTHERS--

--WHILE I DECIDE WHAT WE SHOULD DO NEXT!

NEXT: FRIEND OR FOE?